



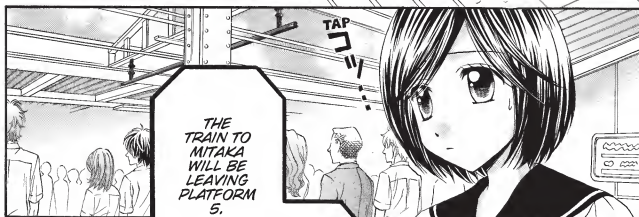
GIRL FRIENDS

[4]

Story & Art by yuri icon MILK MORINAGA



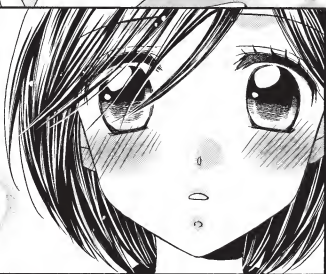
THE PERSON I LOVE KISSED ME.





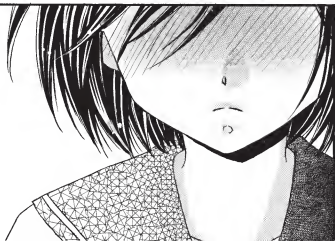
THERE WERE SOME
MORNINGS I JUST
WANTED TO STAY
IN BED AND CRY...

BUT FOR
THE FIRST
TIME...



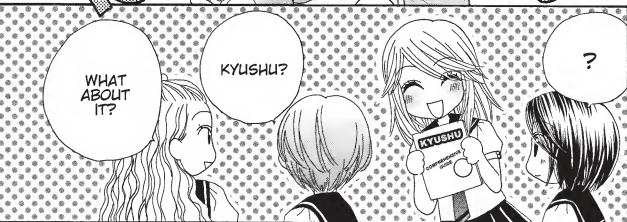
I REALIZED...

YOU CAN
ALSO CRY
'CAUSE
YOU'RE
HAPPY.



[CHAPTER 22]





WELL, I
GUESS IF
YOU'RE A
TOMBOY WHO
LIKES TENNIS
MORE THAN
BOYS...

HMPH!

AH
HA
HA
HA
GUESS A
FLUTTER?

KUNO
HATES THE
SPORTS
FESTIVAL.
GIRL DOESN'T
HAVE AN
ATHLETIC
BONE IN
HER BODY!

IT'S NOT
THE
MID-TERMS
SHE'S
WORRIED
ABOUT...

SHIGH.

?

SO
WHAT?
YOU
ALWAYS
GET GOOD
GRADES!

THEN THE
SPORTS FEST
WOULD BE A
BIG DEAL.

BUT IT'S NOT.

WHAT-
EVER,
TAGU.

YOU
KNOW,
I ALSO
SUCK AT
SPORTS...

I LIKE
BOYS AND
TENNIS
EQUALLY!

SHUT
UP!!

SQUABBLE

GRR...

FLIP

FLIP

FUKUOKA?
DID YOU
WANT TO
SEE THE
DAIZAIFU
SHRINE?

HEY, WILL
WE GO TO
FUKUOKA
ON THE
TRIP?!

MAYBE
WE
SHOULD
GO
THERE?

IT SAYS
THIS SHRINE
IS DEDICATED
TO THE GOD
OF LOVE...

A
SHRINE?

OH,
LOOK
AT
THIS!

KYUSHU

NO KI J

THERE'S
ALSO A
TREE THAT
HELPS YOU
FIND TRUE
LOVE--

CHECK
OUT THIS
CUTE
HEART-
SHAPED
STONE
THEY
HAVE!

THEY'RE
NOT VERY
SUBTLE,
ARE THEY?

AKKO!

GUYS,
IT'S NOT
A BIG
DEAL!

SHE'S
ALREADY--

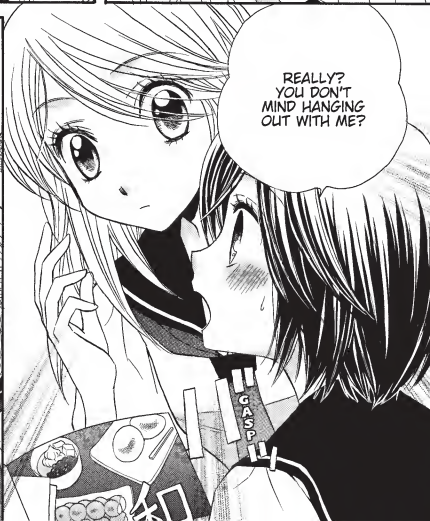
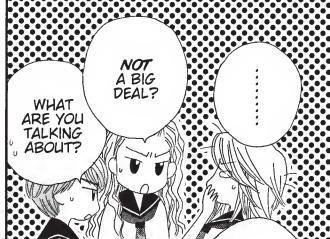
MARI-
CHIN JUST
HAD HER
HEART
BROKEN!

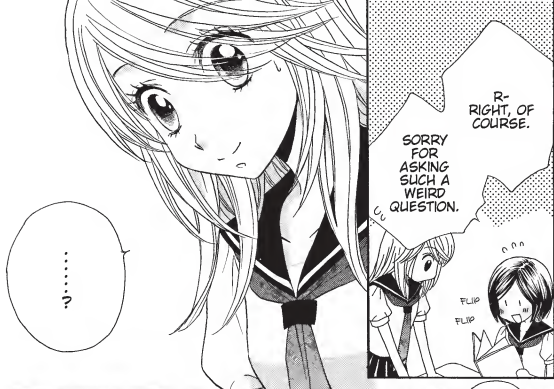
I DON'T
THINK SHE'S
LOOKING
FOR A NEW
LOVE JUST
YET.

HUH?

JEEZ!

I KNOW
YOU DON'T
MEAN TO
DO IT, BUT
C'MON!







ACK...

WHAT'S
WRONG,
KUNOCCHI?

?

KUNO-
CHIN?

VEILS,
HUH? I'M NOT
SURPRISED.
LAST YEAR
WE TOSSED
AROUND BALLS
AND A LOT OF
GIRLS HURT
THEIR
FINGERS...

GET TO
IT, MY
FLOWER
FAIRIES!

YAAAY!

FLAP

FLAP



WHAT
THE HECK IS A
FLOWER FAIRY?!
WHY DO I HAVE
TO GO THROUGH
THIS EVERY
YEAR?!

THIS
IS SO
STUPID!

JUST
KILL
ME!!

UH, THE
TEACHER CAN
HEAR YOU...

YOUR
UNDER-
WEAR'S
SHOWING...

HEY! PAY
ATTENTION!!



DON'T
YOU
GUYS
HATE
THIS?!

ISN'T
THIS THE
STUPIDEST
THING
YOU'VE
EVER HAD
TO DO?!

HUH?
NOT
REALLY...

ACTU-
ALLY,
I LIKE
IT!



IT'S A
LOT OF
WORK!

EVERYONE
PRACTICES
EVERY
DAY UNTIL
THE FEST-
IVAL.

EVERY
STUDENT
IN THE
SCHOOL
TAKES
PART!

IT'S A
SPORTS
FEST
TRADI-
TION!
☆

WHAT IS
CREATIVE
DANCE?

AND
RIGHT
AFTER THE
SPORTS
FEST
ARE MID-
TERMS.

WE
ALWAYS
DANCE
WITH
BARE
FEET!
♡

SERI-
OUSLY?!



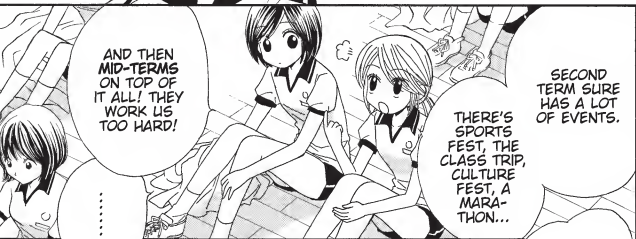
HEH.

I
SHOULDN'T
LAUGH, BUT
IT'S TOO
FUNNY!

POOR
KUNO-
CHIN!

KUNO-SAN!
GET UP
HERE AND
LEAD THE
DANCE!

WHAT?!



AND THEN
MID-TERMS
ON TOP OF
IT ALL! THEY
WORK US
TOO HARD!

SECOND
TERM SURE
HAS A LOT
OF EVENTS.

THERE'S
SPORTS
FEST, THE
CLASS TRIP,
CULTURE
FEST, A
MARA-
THON...



FLOAT

FIRST,
COVER YOUR
HEAD WITH
THE VEIL.

HEH...

YEP.

I DID?
REALLY?

YOU
SAID THE
SAME THING
LAST YEAR,
AKKO.

HUH?
WHAT?



HA
HA!

AND
SHE SAID
YOU WERE
JUST
LAZY.

YOU WERE
CHATTING
WITH SUGI-
SAN...



AH!

AKKO...?

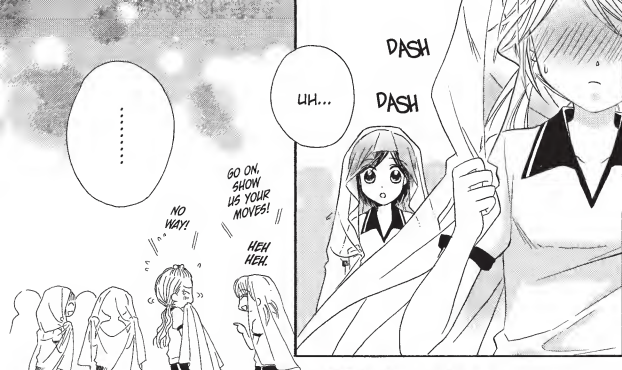


TRUTH

R-REALLY?
I DON'T
REMEMBER...

I
REMEMBER
THINKING,
"SHE'S
RIGHT!"

IT WAS
BEFORE
WE WERE
FRIENDS.



I'M GLAD I GET TO
SEE AKKO SMILE...
OF COURSE I AM...

AND
I WAS
HAPPY...

TO SEE
HER THIS
MORNING,
BUT...





DO FRIENDS KISS EACH OTHER LIKE THAT?





I KNOW...

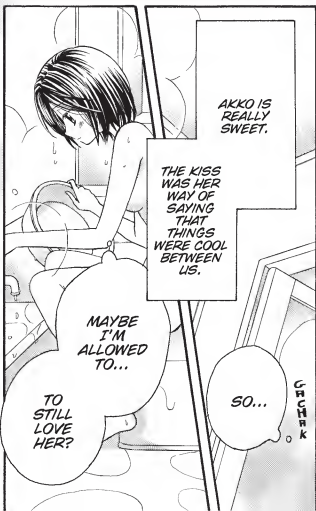
*SHE
WASN'T
BEING
SERIOUS.*

*I THINK
SHE WAS
TRYING
TO ACT
NORMAL
TODAY.*

I JUST...

I DON'T
WANT TO
LOSE HER.

SIGH...



AKKO IS
REALLY
SWEET.

THE KISS
WAS HER
WAY OF
SAYING
THAT
THINGS
WERE COOL
BETWEEN
US.

MAYBE
I'M
ALLOWED
TO...

TO
STILL
LOVE
HER?

SO...

CHCHK

MAYBE TOMORROW
MORNING I'LL FEEL
LIKE CRYING AGAIN.

But...

I CAN'T LET
AKKO SEE
MY TEARS.

THE
CLASS
TRIP...

AWW,
JEEZ...

KYUSHU

HA
HA...

I ACTED
LIKE SUCH
A WEIRDO
AROUND
MARI
TODAY...

ESPE-
CIALLY
IN PE
CLASS.



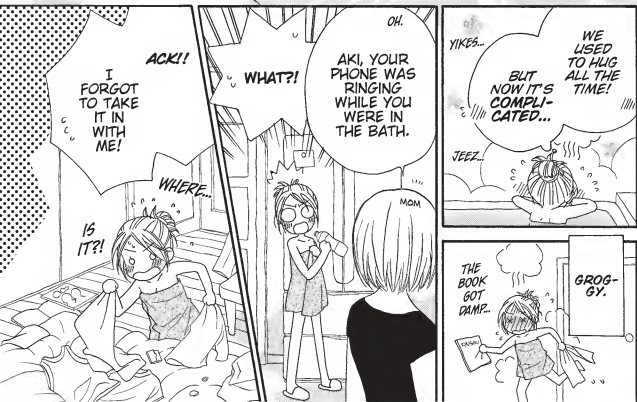
IT
WAS SO
TOUGH.

WHEN
I SAW
HER...

ANNA
GALT

IT TOOK
EVERYTHING
I HAD...

TO KEEP
MYSELF FROM
KISSING HER
RIGHT THERE
IN FRONT OF
EVERYONE.



ACK!!

I
FORGOT
TO TAKE
IT IN
WITH
ME!

WHAT?!

OH.

AKI, YOUR
PHONE WAS
RINGING
WHILE YOU
WERE IN
THE BATH.

WHERE...

IS
IT?!

YIKES...

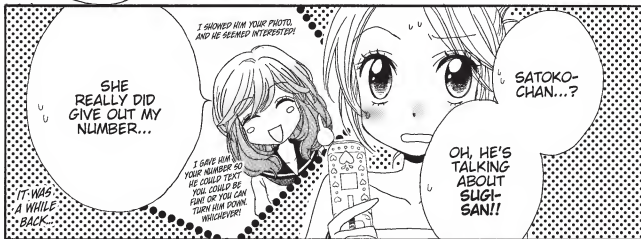
WE
USED
TO HUG
ALL THE
TIME!

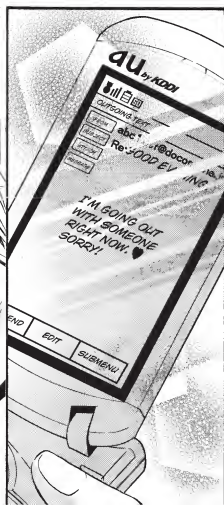
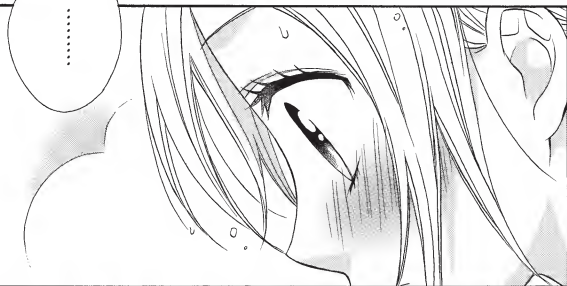
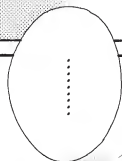
BUT
NOW IT'S
COMPLI-
CATED...

JEEZ...

THE
BOOK
GOT
RAMP...

GROG-
GY.









I JUST BROUGHT
PAJAMAS THAT I
NORMALLY WEAR...
AM I SUPPOSED TO
BUY A NEW SET FOR
THE CLASS TRIP? ५

PAJAMAS FOR THE CLASS TRIP ☆

GIRL FRIENDS — ガールフレンズ —

TRA-LA-LA

NEXT, WE
ARE PROUD
TO PRESENT A
CREATIVE DANCE
PERFORMANCE
FROM THE
SECOND YEAR
CLASS...

VISUALIZING
THE ALL TOO
BRIEF, YET
BEAUTIFUL,
LIFE OF A
FLOWER.

**GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL
SPORTS FEST**

LUNGE

TRA-LA-LA

SHINE

あ

あ

☆

FLOWER
PETALS
IN THE
WIND.

TWIRL

TWIRL

TWIRL

TWIRL

TWIRL

FULL
BLOS-
SOM!

[CHAPTER 23]

超
イキ
イキ

U U
THAT
ONE GIRL
IS REALLY
INTO IT...

I CAN'T
LOOK
AWAY.

U U
IS SHE
IN THE
DANCE
CLUB?

WRONG!
ANIME
CLUB...

U U
ヤ
ア
MUTTER

ヤ
ア
MUTTER

WOW!

CLAP
CLAP

WHAT
A GREAT
DANCE BY
THE SECOND
YEAR CLASS!
GIVE THEM
A ROUND OF
APPLAUSE!

CLAP
CLAP

EARLY
OCTOBER,
THE
SPORTS
FESTIVAL.

THE
TEACHER
LOVED
TAMA-MIN'S
PERFOR-
MANCE.

MURMUR
MURMUR

WOOOW!

CLAP
CLAP

AND KLINO-
CHAN, WHO
TOTALLY
HATED
DANCING...

BUT
SUGI-SAN
DIDN'T
WANT
TO HAVE
ANYTHING
TO DO
WITH HER.

MURMUR

HEY,
SUGI-SAN!
HEEY! //

SEKINE-
SAN!!
YOU WERE
AMAZING!

DANCE
← CLUB
COACH.

I WISH
I COULD'VE
BEEN UP
THERE!

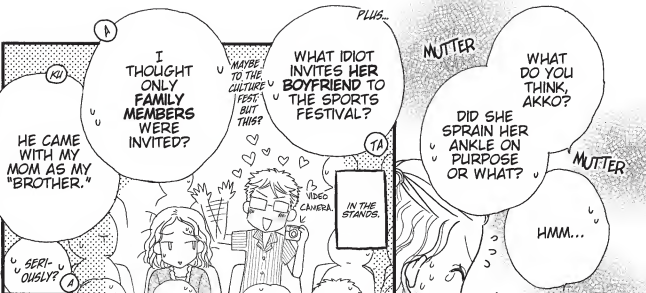
YOU WERE
FANTASTIC!

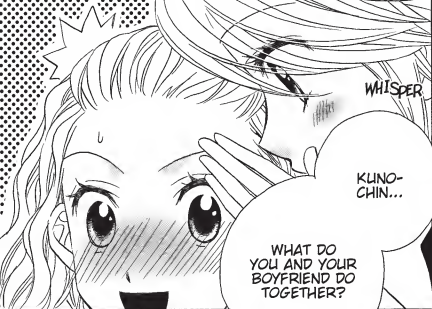
GREAT
JOB,
GUYS!!

WAS
BENCHED.

CLAP
CLAP

CLAP

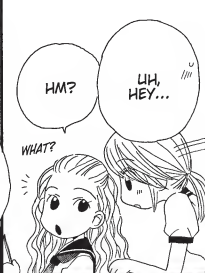




WHISPER

KUNO-
CHIN...

WHAT DO
YOU AND YOUR
BOYFRIEND DO
TOGETHER?



HM?

UH,
HEY...

WHAT?

WHAT
DO YOU
GUYS
DO ON
DATES
AND
STUFF?

I
WASN'T
ASKING
ABOUT
THAT!!

JEEZ!

I
CAN'T
TALK
ABOUT
THAT
HERE!

WHAT
THE
HELL?!

WHOA!

N-N-NONE
OF YOUR
BUSINESS!!



HEY...

OH!
AND AT THE
VERY END OF
EVERY TEXT
HE WRITES
"I LOVE YOU,
CHIHARU!"
WITHOUT
FAIL!

NO
THANKS...

WANNA
SEE?

HEE
HEE.

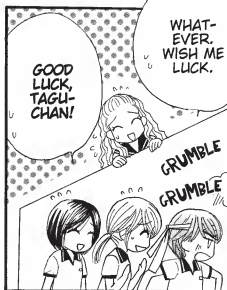


OH...

SOMETIMES
WE GO
SHOPPING
IN SHIBUYA
OR SEE A
MOVIE IN
ODAIBA...

WE'RE
HAPPY
DOING
ANY-
THING!

WE ALSO
HANG OUT
AT HIS PLACE
AND WATCH
VIDEOS!



GOOD LUCK, TAGU-CHAN!

WHAT-
EVER,
WISH ME
LUCK.

GRUMBLE
GRUMBLE



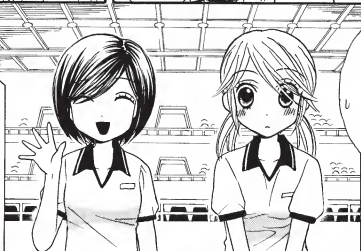
AT
LEAST
CHEER
ME ON!

JEEZ,
I WAS
JUST
TALKING
WITH
AKKO.

S-
SORRY...

ME,
THAT'S
WHO!!

WHILE
YOU'RE CHATTING
AWAY, GUESS
WHO'S DOING
THE SCAVENGER
HUNT IN YOUR
PLACE?!



LET'S
SHOW
THOSE
NERDS!!

BEAT THE
B COURSE
TEAMS!

NARU-CHAN
SENSEI
SEEMED
DEAD SET
ON WINNING
THIS YEAR.

SHE'LL
PROBABLY BE
DISAPPOINTED.

YEAH.
BUT THE
B COURSE
STUDENTS
ARE SUR-
PRISINGLY
ATHLETIC.

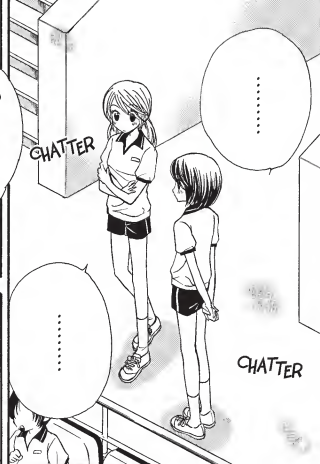
TRUE...

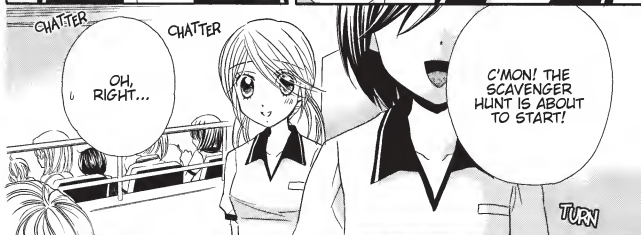
I GUESS
THEY'RE
TALENTED
ALL AROUND.



YEAH,
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT.

WOW,
OUR TEAM
MIGHT
ACTUALLY
WIN THIS
YEAR,
HUH?







IT'S
BEEN
TWO
WEEKS...

SINCE I
KISSED
MARI.

チヤン
GR-CLACK

チヤン...
GR-CLACK

HAA...



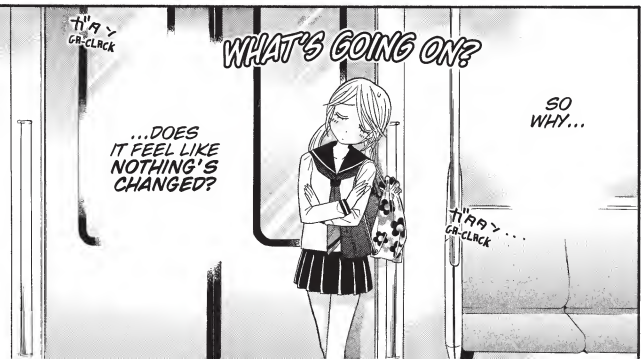
チヤン
GR-CLACK

WHAT'S GOING ON?

...DOES
IT FEEL LIKE
NOTHING'S
CHANGED?

SO
WHY...

チヤン...
GR-CLACK



GO ON
DATES
AND
CALL
EACH
OTHER?

MADE ME
HAPPIER
THAN
ANYTHING
EVER
HAS.

I
GUESS
WE DO
TEXT
EVERY
DAY...

I
THOUGHT
MARI FELT
THE SAME
WAY...

AND WE
HANG OUT
ON THE
WEEK-
ENDS.

AND WE
SEE EACH
OTHER ALL
DAY AT
SCHOOL...

BUT...

THE DAY
I KISSED
MARI... I
COULDN'T
SLEEP
AFTER-
WARDS
BECAUSE
I KEPT
THINKING
ABOUT IT.

OH,
YOU!

STOP
IT!

I NEED MORE!

THAT'S
EXACTLY
HOW
THINGS
WERE
BEFORE!

WAIT...





MORNING, MARI!

PRETTY PLEASE?

WANNA COME OVER TO MY HOUSE LATER? I BOUGHT THE CUTEST DRESS YESTERDAY AND I JUST HAVE TO SHOW YOU!

♪

DIRECT APPROACH

直

球。

THE BOOK-STORE?

OH, I'LL GO WITH YOU!

UM, THAT SOUNDS GREAT, BUT...

I WANTED TO DROP BY THE BOOKSTORE TODAY.

DON'T GIVE UP, AKKO!

OH, YEAH, B-BUT...

GR-CLACK

ROOOOAR

THAT'S OKAY.

GR-CLACK

I MEAN, IT'S KINDA OUT OF YOUR WAY...

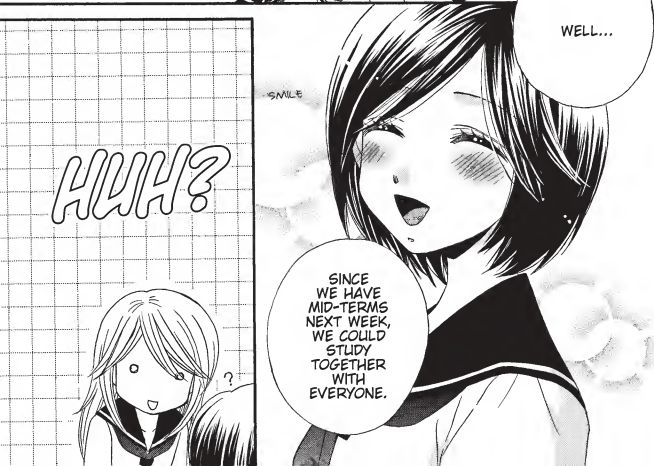
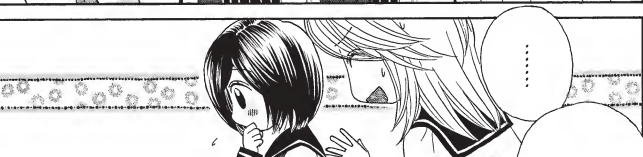


MARI,
MARI!
WANT TO
DO SOME-
THING
LATER
TODAY?

OOO, WE
HAVEN'T
BEEN TO
SHIBUYA IN
A WHILE.
WANNA GO
AFTER
SCHOOL?

HELPING
WITH
CLASS
DUTIES.
♡

HEY,
MARI, ARE
YOU DOING
ANYTHING
THIS
SUNDAY?
♡



WELL...

SMILE

HUH?

SINCE
WE HAVE
MID-TERMS
NEXT WEEK,
WE COULD
STUDY
TOGETHER
WITH
EVERYONE.

?



AFTER
SPORTS
FEST
COMES
MID-
TERMS.

JUST LIKE
LAST YEAR,
I TOTALLY
FORGOT...

SOB

IT'S BEEN
ALMOST
A YEAR...
SINCE WE
BECAME
FRIENDS.

THAT
MEANS...

WAIT
A SEC...



CAN
YOU
SOLVE
THIS
ONE,
MARI-
CHIN?

WHICH
ONE?

BACK
THEN,
I JUST
WANTED
TO BE HER
FRIEND.

BUT
NOW...



BUT
NOW?

I WANT TO BE HER EVERYTHING.

I WANT
TO SPEND
TIME ALONE
TOGETHER.

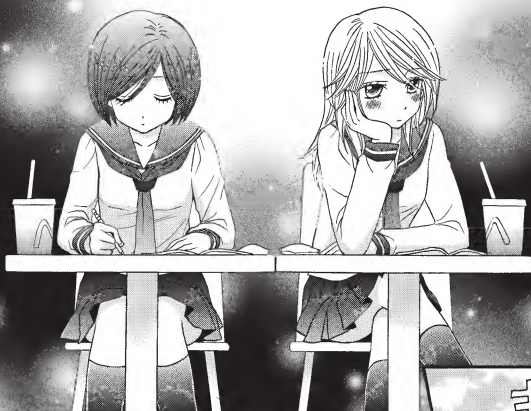
I WANT
TO TALK
ABOUT
OUR
PAST...
AND OUR
FUTURE...

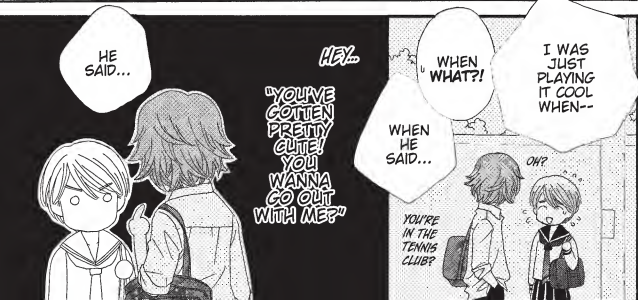
I
DON'T
WANT TO
BE WITH
ANYONE
BUT
MARI.

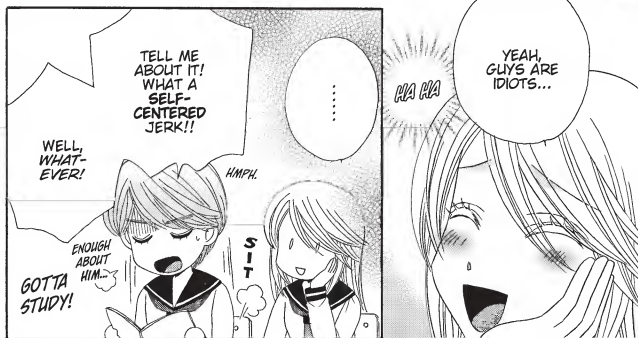
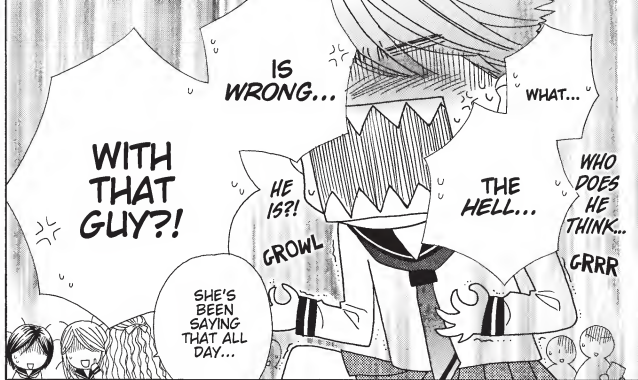


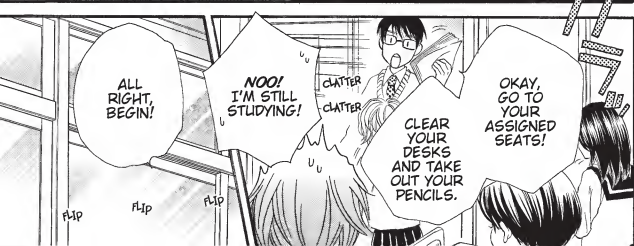
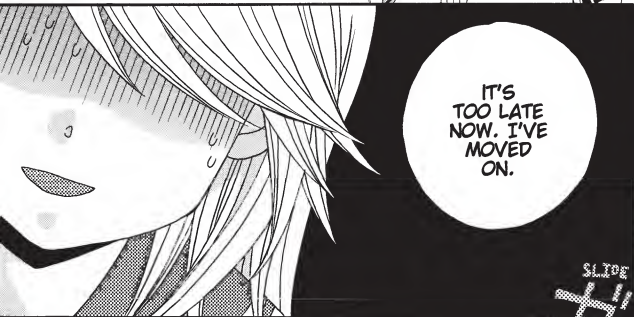
DON'T YOU
FEEL THE
SAME WAY?

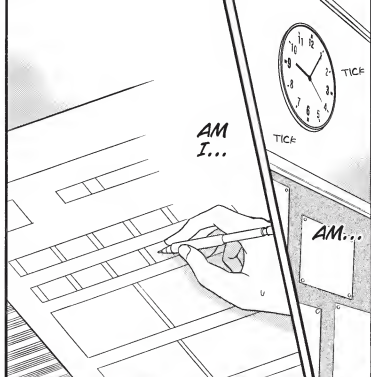
PLEASE,
MARI...











AM
I...

TICK

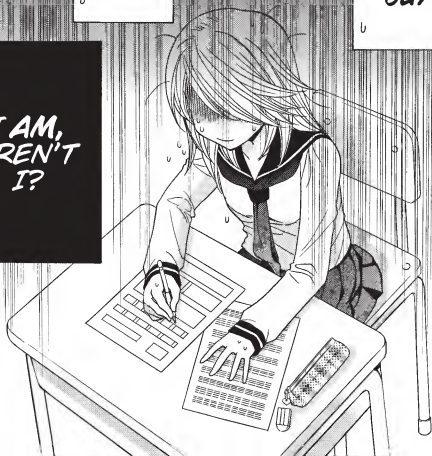
AM...

"JUST BECAUSE
I LIKED
HIM THEN
DOESN'T MEAN
I LIKE
HIM NOW!!!"

OH
GOD...

JUST
LIKE
THAT
GUY?

I AM,
AREN'T
I?

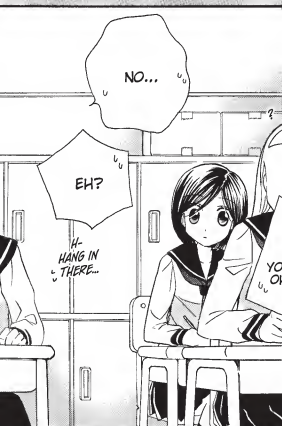


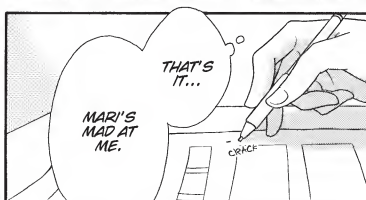


BUT...

I DIDN'T EXACTLY SAY "YES" EITHER...

BECAUSE I WASN'T SURE HOW I FELT ABOUT MARI.









JUST
LIKE LAST
YEAR, I
HAD TO
RE-TEST.

OF
COURSE,
MY MID-
TERM
MARKS
SUCKED...

HEY, DO
YOU THINK
WE'LL GET TO
PICK OUR
SEATS?

AND
BEFORE
I KNEW
IT...

SURE.
JUST ASK
SOMEONE TO
CHANGE
PLACES
WITH YOU.

GOD, I
HOPE THEY
FEED US
ON THE
PLANE!

DIDN'T
YOU EAT
BREAK-
FAST?

I'M
STARVING!

IT WAS
TIME FOR
THE CLASS
TRIP...

OUR
FIRST TRIP
TOGETHER.

HEY,
WHAT'S
YOUR
SEAT
NUMBER?





I WEAR A HOODED TOP
WITH MY FAVORITE FRILLY
SHORTS! I BOUGHT THEM
FOR THE CLASS TRIP! ♡

I CAN'T WAIT
TO SHOW MARI. ☐

GIRL FRIENDS — ガールフレンズ —

[CHAPTER 24]

AND
HERE
WE
ARE!

THE CLASS
HAS JUST
ARRIVED...



AND IT'S A
BEAUTIFUL
DAY HERE
IN KAGO-
SHIMA~!!



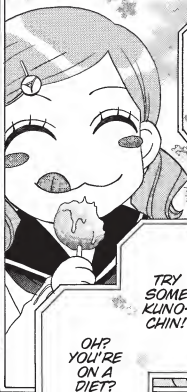
THIS YEAR'S
"SUPER EXCITING
KYUSHU CLASS
TRIP" STARTS...
NOW!!

THIS IS
TAMA-MIN,
YOUR
FAVORITE
SUPER IDOL
REPORTER,
CHECKING IN!

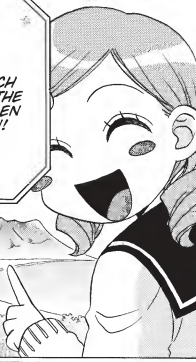


Kagoshima Airport





THE MOCHI
THEY MAKE
HERE IS
SOOOO
YUMMY!!



WE
ATE LUNCH
HERE AT THE
SENGAN-EN
GARDEN!

THE VIEW
OF MT.
SAKURA-
JIMA IS
FANTASTIC!!

TRY
SOME
KUNO-
CHIN!

OH?
YOU'RE
ON A
DIET?
SORRY!



THIS FISH
CAKE IS
THE BEST
EVER~!!

SO
GOOD!



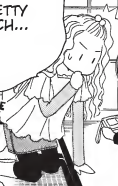
OH
MAN!



RIGHT!
I TOOK
SOME
PICS
WITH MY
CELL...



THAT
REMINDS
ME! I
TOOK
SOME
PHOTOS,
TOO!



PRETTY
MUCH...

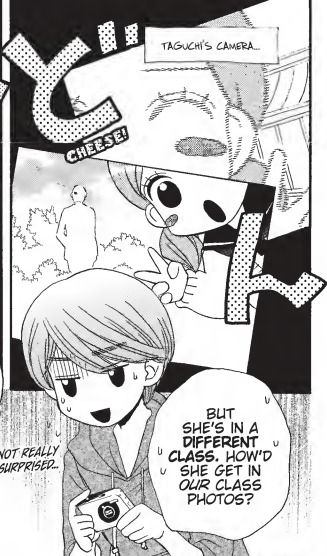


KUNO-
CHIN...
DID YOU
SPEND THE
WHOLE DAY
TAPING
TAMA-MIN?

AKKO'S CELL
PHONE CAMERA.



TAGUCHI'S CAMERA...





TRUTH
IS, I
DIDN'T
FEEL
LIKE
EATING.

IT WAS
FUN
SIGHT-
SEEING
WITH
EVERYONE,
BUT THIS
IS MY
FIRST
TRIP WITH
MARI...

YOU
DIDN'T
EACH MUCH
EITHER,
AKKO. ARE
YOU OKAY?

I WAS
SO TIRED,
I COULD
BARELY
EAT
DINNER.

I
KNOW!

HUH?

OH,
I'M FINE!
I'M JUST
TIRED...

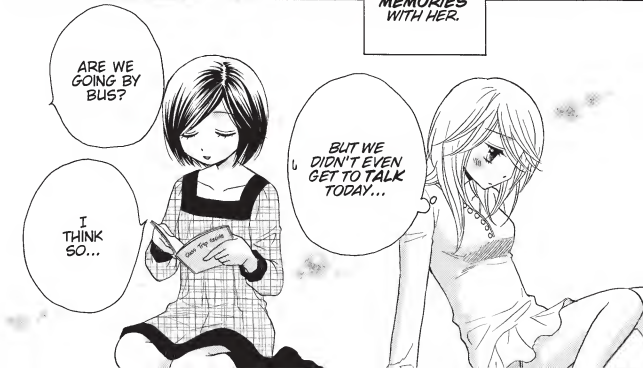
ROLL



OH,
TOMORROW,
WE'RE GOING
TO THE
IMPERIAL
RESTORATION
MUSEUM!

I JUST
WANT IT
TO BE
SPECIAL
FOR US.

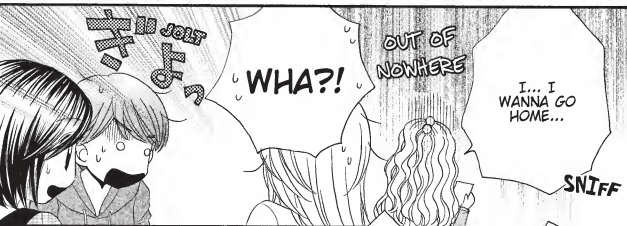
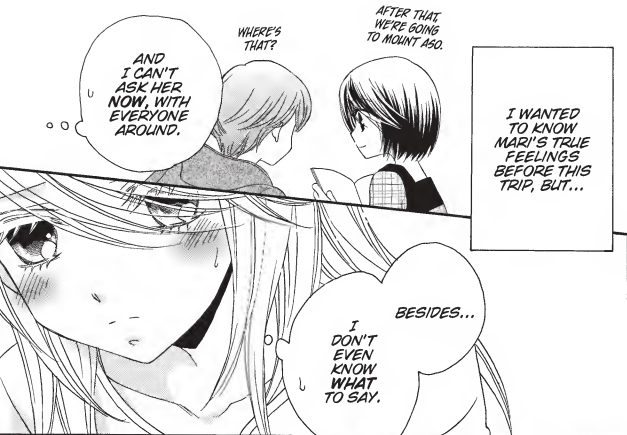
I WANT
TO MAKE
A MILLION
HAPPY
MEMORIES
WITH HER.

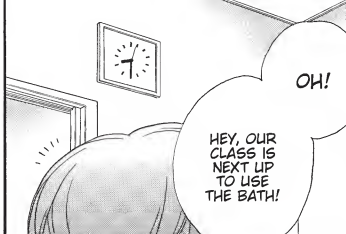


ARE WE
GOING BY
BUS?

I
THINK
SO...

BUT WE
DIDN'T EVEN
GET TO TALK
TODAY...





OH!

HEY, OUR
CLASS IS
NEXT UP
TO USE
THE BATH!

IT'S
NICE
BEING
THIS
CLOSE
TO
MARI...

AND WE
STILL
HAVE
FOUR
MORE
DAYS
TOGETH-
ER, BUT...

GIGI...

HUH?

CAN'T WE
USE THE
BATHTUB
IN OUR
ROOM?

IT'S
RIGHT
HERE...

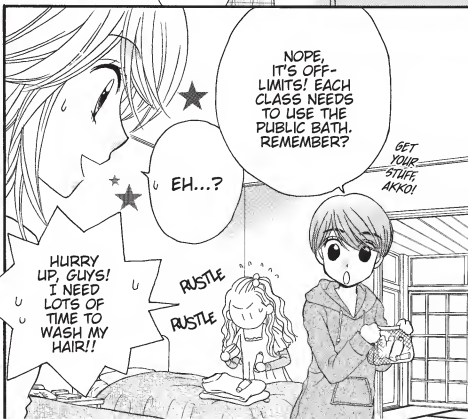


I'M
GOING
TO THE
BATH-
ROOM.



PUBLIC...
BATH...?

DOOM



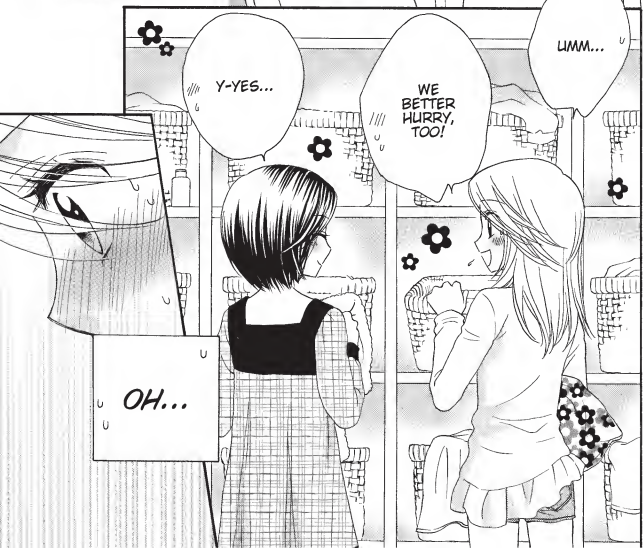
NOPE,
IT'S OFF-
LIMITS! EACH
CLASS NEEDS
TO USE THE
PUBLIC BATH.
REMEMBER?

GET
YOUR
STUFF,
AKKO!

EH...?

HURRY
UP, GUYS!
I NEED
LOTS OF
TIME TO
WASH MY
HAIR!!

RUSTLE
RUSTLE





I'VE GOT
BELLY FAT...
AND I HAVEN'T
SHAVED IN
DAYS...! I-I
CAN'T SHOW
MARI MY
NAKED
BODY!

SHOULD
I COVER
MYSELF
WITH A
TOWEL?

OH
MY
GOD!!

I
WASN'T
READY
FOR
THIS.

OR KEEP
MY UNDER-
WEAR ON...?



CA-THUMP

CA-THUMP

CA-THUMP

GLANCE

B-BUT...

I'LL
GET TO
SEE MARI
NAKED...

CA-THUMP

CA-THUMP



ACK!

SEE
YOU,
TAGU!!

DOUBLE
WHOA!!

DART

ひん



CLANK

SPLASH

AKKO,
I NEED
TO USE
THE
RESTROOM.

I'LL
MEET
YOU
INSIDE

EH?

RIGHT!
SURE!



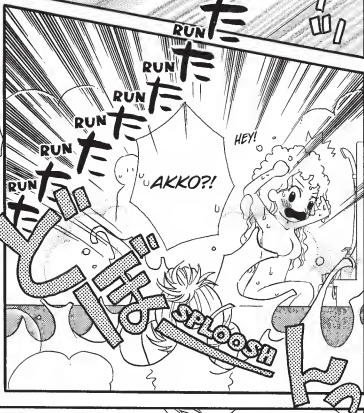
AHA!
I MADE IT!!
NOW MARI
WON'T SEE
MY HAIRY
LEGS!!

HEY,
THAT
GIRL
DIDN'T
WASH
FIRST!

AKKO,
CAN YOU
SEE THE
OCEAN?

I...
DON'T
KNOW.

HUH?



HE

HE

HE

AND
I CAN
SEE MARI
NAKED!

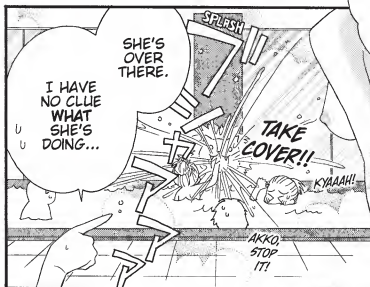
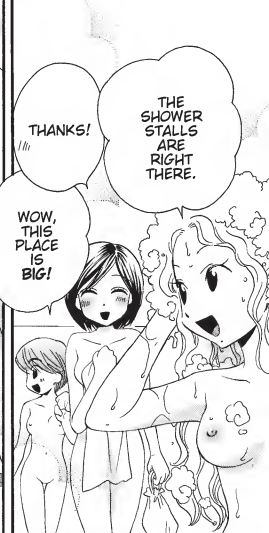
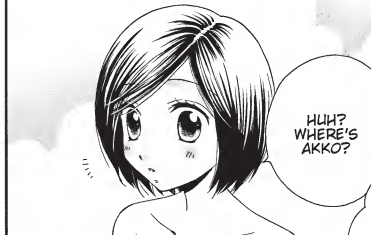
I'M A
GENIUS!!

BUT WHEN
WILL I GET
TO WASH
MY HAIR?

MARI-
CHAN,
TAGUCHI!

OVER
HERE!

SLIDE
ガッ





DANG,
MINE'S A
2-IN-1
SHAMPOO
AND CON-
DITIONER.
DO YOU
HAVE ANY,
KUNOCCHI?

OH...

ZAAA

OH NO,
I FORGOT
MY CON-
DITIONER.



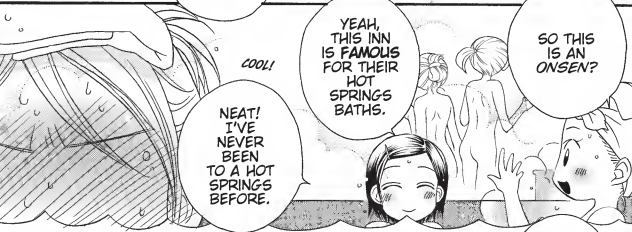
HOW MUCH
HAIR STUFF
DID YOU
BRING? NO
WONDER YOUR
BAG WAS SO
HEAVY!

I'M
GOING
TO THE
ONSEN*.
AKKO, YOU
WANNA
COME?

YEP!

HERE'S
SOME HAIR
TREATMENT,
SOME CREAM
FOR YOUR
ENDS...

AND
HERE'S
THE CON-
DITIONER!



COOL!

YEAH,
THIS INN
IS FAMOUS
FOR THEIR
HOT
SPRINGS
BATHS.

SO THIS
IS AN
ONSEN?

NEAT!
I'VE
NEVER
BEEN
TO A HOT
SPRINGS
BEFORE.



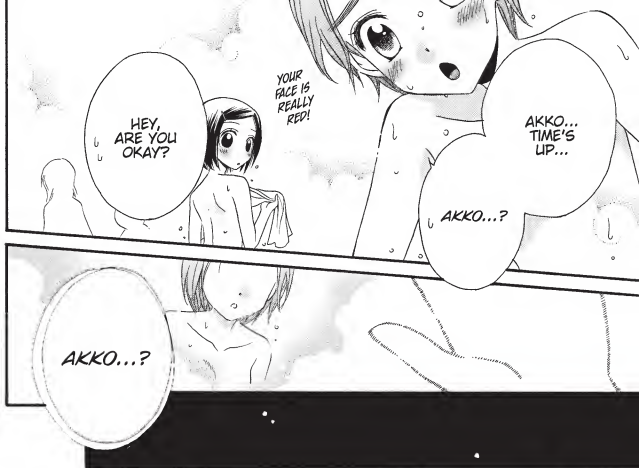
AKKO,
HAVE YOU
WASHED
YOUR
HAIR
YET?

WOW,
IT'S
HOT!

HEY, I'M
GOING
BACK
TO THE
ROOM.

OKAY.

*An onsen is a natural hot springs bath.





HEH.
SORRY.
THANKS
FOR LOOK-
ING OUT
FOR ME.

UM,
WHERE'S
MARI?



YOU STAYED
IN THE BATH
TOO LONG AND
OVERHEATED.
I THOUGHT
THAT ONLY
HAPPENED TO
OLD PEOPLE!

YOU
SCARED
US!

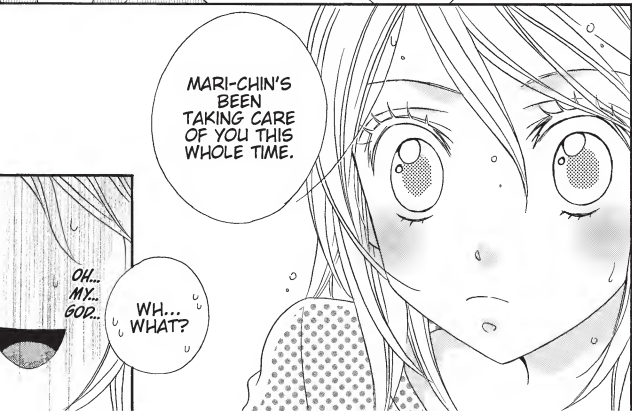
I...
I DID?

ARE YOU
OKAY? YOU
FAINED IN
THE BATH!



BUT
SHE'S
THE ONE
YOU
REALLY
NEED TO
THANK.

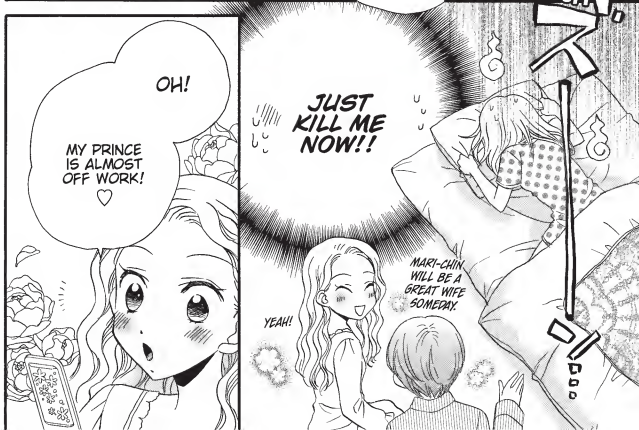
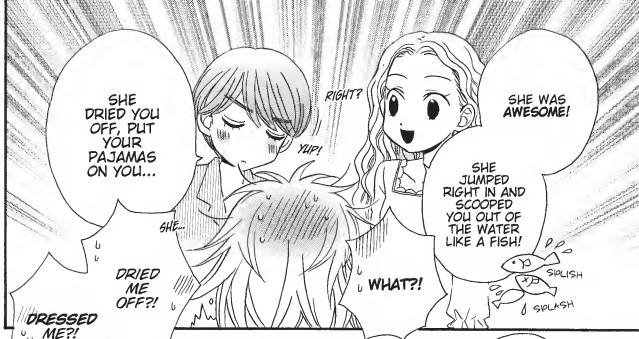
SHE'S
AT A TEAM
LEADERS'
MEETING
RIGHT
NOW...

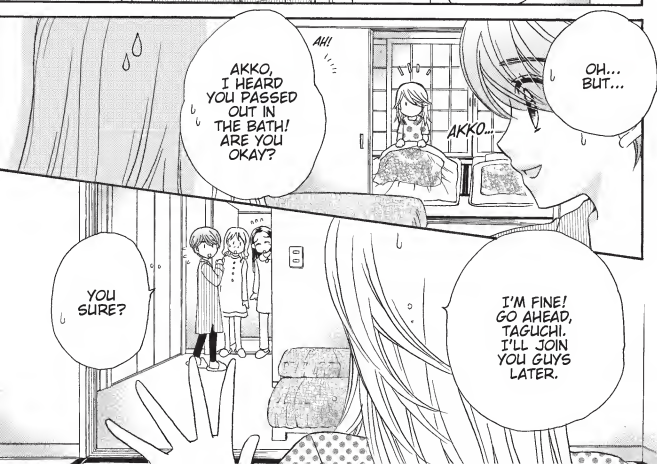
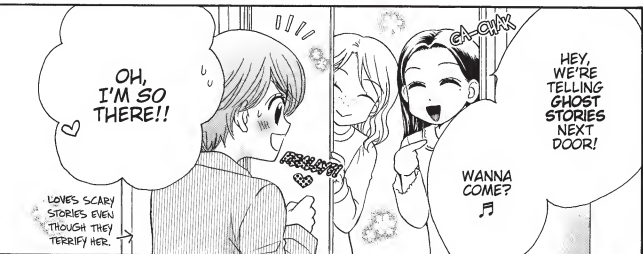
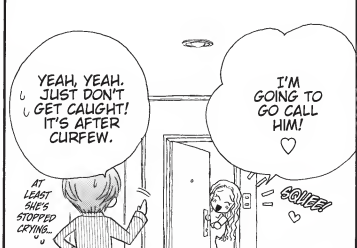


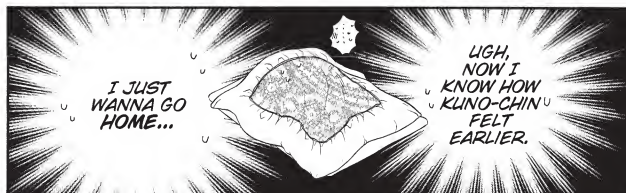
MARI-CHIN'S
BEEN
TAKING CARE
OF YOU THIS
WHOLE TIME.

OH...
MY...
GOD...

WH...
WHAT?









MY FAVORITE STRIPED
PAJAMAS. IT'S MY ONLY
SET. DURING THE CLASS
TRIP, I WORE PAJAMA
PANTS SO I DIDN'T
FLASH ANYONE. 3

BUT I'M MORE
WORRIED ABOUT
GHOSTS THAN
PEOPLE SEEING
MY UNDERWEAR...

GIRL FRIENDS — ガールフレンズ —

[CHAPTER 25]



OH MY
GOD! MARI
SAW ME
NAKED!!

AND SHE
DRIED
ME OFF...
ALL OVER...

SHE
SAW
EVERY-
THING!

AND SHE
TOUCHED
ME TOO...

OH GOD,
I COULD
JUST DIE!!

WHERE'S
EVERY-
ONE
ELSE?

NO!!

!!!

I MEAN,
UH, WEL-
COME
BACK...

I'M
BACK!

OH,
AKKO,
ARE YOU
AWAKE?

KA-CHAK

UM,
KUNO-CHIN
IS CALLING
HER
BOYFRIEND
AND TAGUCHI
IS NEXT
DOOR.

REALLY?

DON'T
WORRY!
I'M
FINE!

JEEZ,
I ASKED
THEM TO
KEEP AN
EYE ON
YOU.

Y-YES.

THOSE
TWO...

I...
CAN'T
ASK
HER...

HOW
MUCH
OF MY
BODY...

SHE
SAW...

THEY
TOLD
YOU?

YEAH...

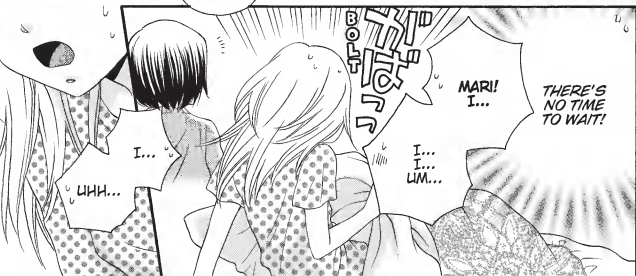
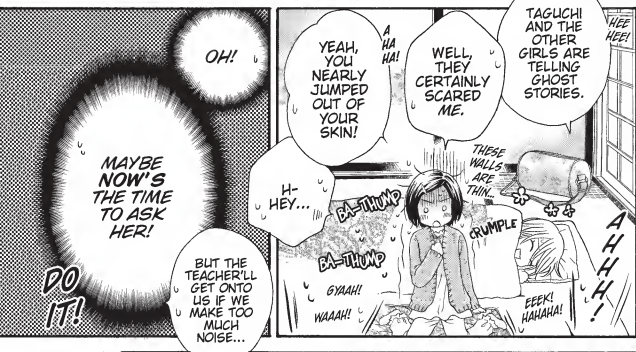
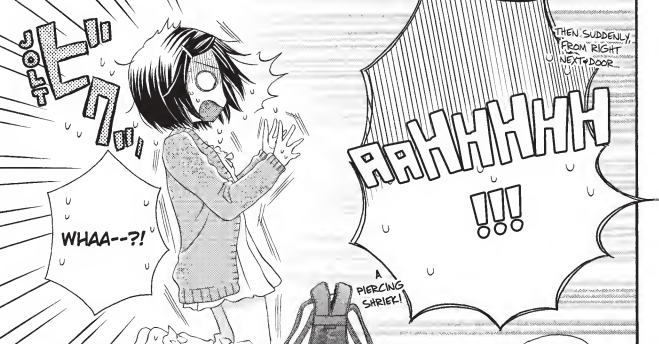
THANKS...

SO...
I
HEARD
YOU
SAVED
ME...

MUMBLE

MUMBLE

SIT





OH
RIGHT,
HER
FEEL-
INGS!

UHH...

STAMMER
STAMMER

UHM...

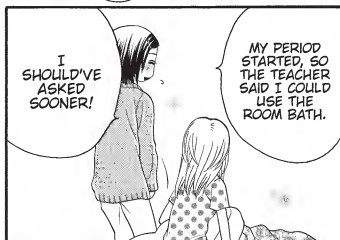
WAIT,
WHAT
DID I
WANT
TO ASK
HER?

I
WANTED
TO TALK
TO YOU,
MARI.



IT'S
BEEN
HARD TO
FIND THE
RIGHT
MO-
MENT...

WITH
EVERY-
ONE
AROUND
ALL THE
TIME.



I
SHOULD'VE
ASKED
SOONER!

MY PERIOD
STARTED, SO
THE TEACHER
SAID I COULD
USE THE
ROOM BATH.

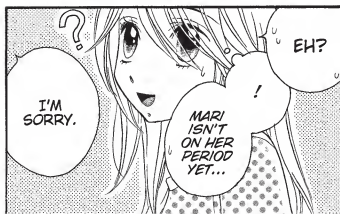


AKKO...

I'M USING
THE BATH
IN OUR
WASHROOM
TOMORROW.

HUH?

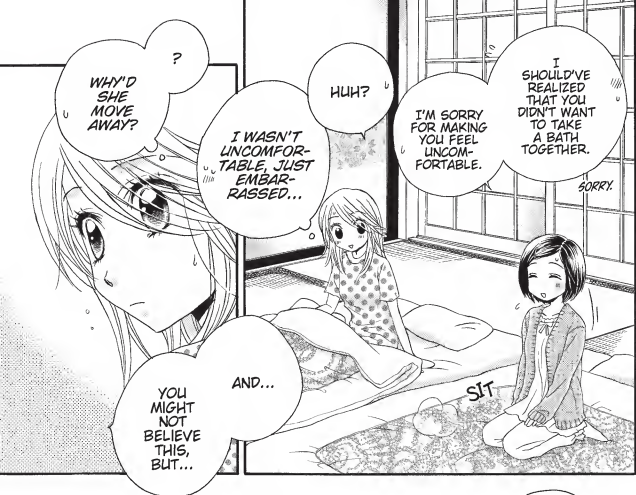
STAND

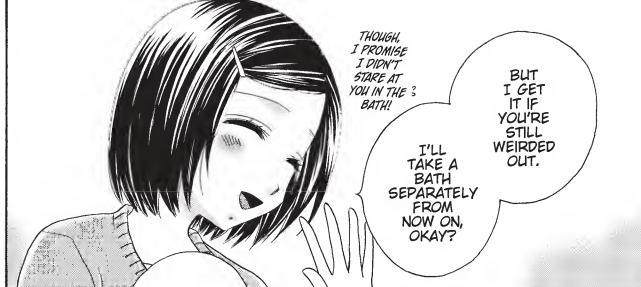


I'M
SORRY.

MARI
ISN'T
ON HER
PERIOD
YET...

EH?

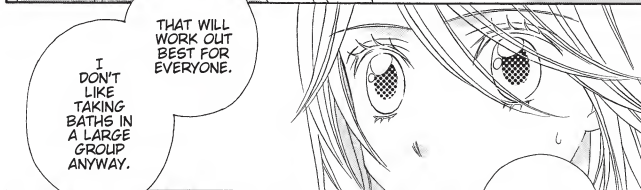




THOUGH,
I PROMISE
I DIDN'T
STARE AT
YOU IN THE
BATH!

BUT
I GET
IT IF
YOU'RE
STILL
WEIRDED
OUT.

I'LL
TAKE A
BATH
SEPARATELY
FROM
NOW ON,
OKAY?



THAT WILL
WORK OUT
BEST FOR
EVERYONE.

I
DON'T
LIKE
TAKING
BATHS IN
A LARGE
GROUP
ANYWAY.



HOLD
IT!

SO
DON'T
WORRY.

I
WON'T
BOTHER
YOU--

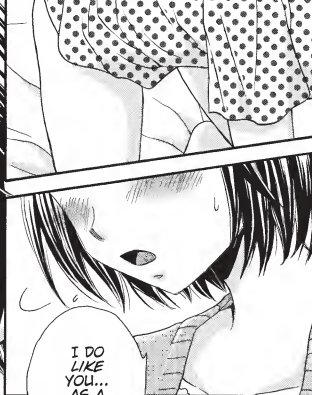


YOU
DON'T
LIKE ME
ANYMORE,
MARI?

DOES
THIS
MEAN...



LIAR!



I DO
LIKE
YOU...
AS A
FRIEND.



THEN
I DON'T
BELIEVE
YOU!!

I
CAN'T
SAY
THAT!

DON'T
SAY WE'RE
FRIENDS!
TELL ME
YOU HATE
ME!

YOU
LIED AND
GOT A
BOYFRIEND
TO HIDE
BEHIND!

YOU
LIED
BEFORE,
TOO!

I'M NOT
LYING!



THAT
WAS...

THAT WAS
DIFFERENT...



AKKO?!



I DIDN'T WANT MY FEELINGS TO COME BETWEEN US, AKKO.



SO JUST STOP IT, PLEASE...



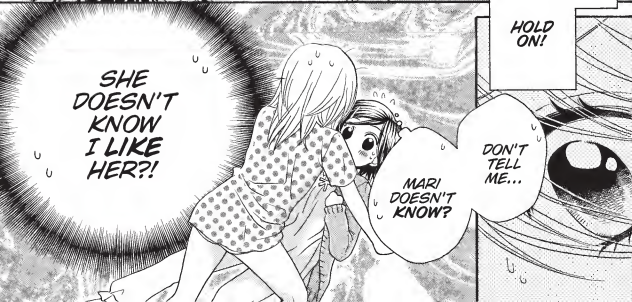
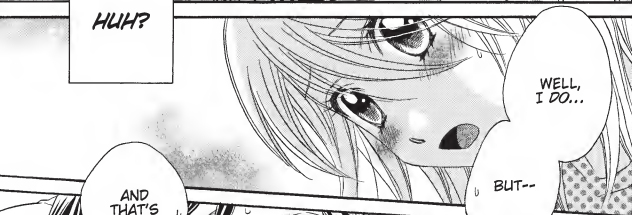
YOU'RE THE ONE ACTING WEIRD, MARI! YOU ACT LIKE...



LIKE WHAT WE DID THAT DAY MEANT NOTHING!

LIKE YOU'RE TRYING TO ERASE THE FACT THAT WE KISSED...

KISSED ...?





I
CAN'T
BELIEVE
HIM!!

HELP, SADAKO
IS AFTER US!

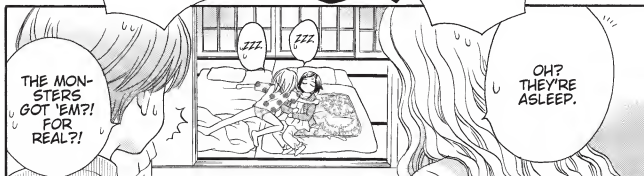
THAT
IDIOT!

MY
PRINCE
WON'T
ANSWER
HIS PHONE!
AND--!!

STAMPEDE

FREDDY'S
GONNA
GET US
IN OUR
DREAMS!!

OH MY
GOD!!



THE MON-
STERS
GOT 'EM?!
FOR
REAL?!

OH?
THEY'RE
ASLEEP.



FOR
OKAY!
ONCE, I
ACTUALLY
WANT TO
HEAR ABOUT
YOUR LOVE
LIFE!

I'M SO
MAD I
CAN'T
SLEEP!

ANYWAY,
LISTEN TO
THIS!! MY
PRINCE
IS THE
WORST!!

POOR
GIRL.

JEEZ!

IT LOOKS
LIKE AKKO
PASSED OUT
ON TOP
OF HER...

I CAN
SEE
AKKO'S
PANTIES.

I FEEL
SORRY FOR
MARI-CHIN.
SHOULD
WE WAKE
THEM?

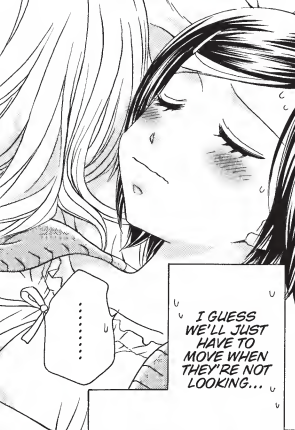
WELL...
THEY
SEEM
ALL
RIGHT,
SO...

I GOTTA
STAY
AWAKE!!

I HATE
GHOST
STORIES!

WHAAT?!

ALL RIGHT!
WE'LL TALK
ALL NIGHT
LONG!!



I GUESS
WE'LL JUST
HAVE TO
MOVE WHEN
THEY'RE NOT
LOOKING...

I HOPE
I'M NOT
CRUSHING
MARI.



JEEZ...

WE
WERE
ABLE TO
FAKE IT,
BUT... WHY
DIDN'T THEY
WAKE US
UP?!



SLIDE

HRRMMM...

MUMBLE
MUMBLE
...

CAREFUL...

WIGGLE

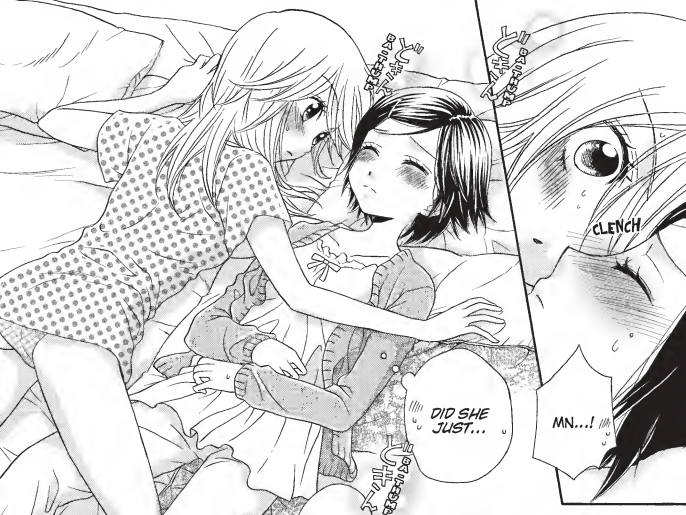
WIGGLE

AH!

!!

TWITCH

!



DID SHE
JUST...

MN...!

OH!

MARI
DOESN'T
HAVE
A BRA
ON...

SLIDE

SHE'S
SWEATY
...

BUT
SOFT.

OH...

"SHOOT
..."

I...
WANT
TO...

MARI...

"MFF--!!"

FLINCH

WHISPER

HER
BREATH-
LESS
GASPS...

AND
MY OWN
BEATING
HEART.

I FELT
HER BODY
MOVE...

NOW I
KNOW
FOR
SURE.

I...

REAL-
IZED...

I
KNEW
IT...

BUT...

I...

I...

I...

I AM
MADLY IN
LOVE...

WITH
THAT
GIRL.

THANKS,
MARI-
CHIN!

IT'S BY
THE SINK,
KUNO-
CHIN.

YOU'RE
DRESSED
ALREADY?

THE
MORNING
AFTER...



HEY,
AKKO!

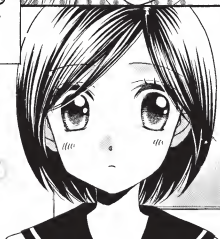
GET
UP!
YOU'LL
MISS
BREAK-
FAST!



I FELL
ASLEEP?

UHH...

HAS
ANYONE
SEEN MY
HAIR
DRYER?



GA-CHAK

WILL
WE HAVE
TIME TO BUY
KAGOSHIMA
SOUVENIRS
TODAY?

WHEN
I SAW
MARI'S
FACE...

I
DON'T
KNOW...

UHH...

GOOD
MORNING,
AKKO.

WE'RE
GOING TO
THE CASTLE,
SO MAYBE
YOU CAN BUY
STUFF AT
THE GIFT
SHOP.

I
NEED
TO BUY
SOME
GIFTS
TOO.



DID
EVERY-
ONE
GET A
GOOD
NIGHT'S
SLEEP?

WE'RE
HEADED
TO THE
IMPERIAL
RESTO-
RATION
MUSEUM...

EVERY-
THING
WAS
SUDDENLY
CLEAR
TO ME.

I THINK
I FINALLY
UNDER-
STOOD
MARI'S
FEELINGS.

GOOD
MORN-
ING...

MARI.



WE
PASSED
BY IT
YESTER-
DAY.

HERE IN
KAGA-
SHIMA...

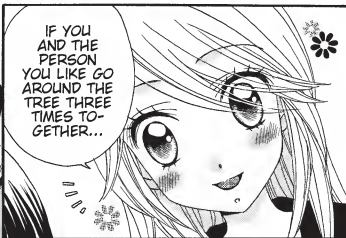
GLANCE

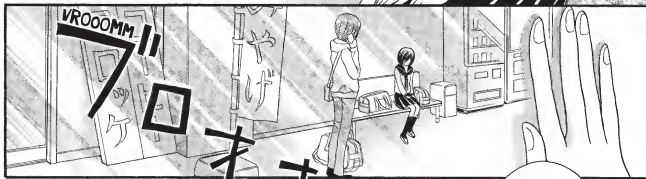
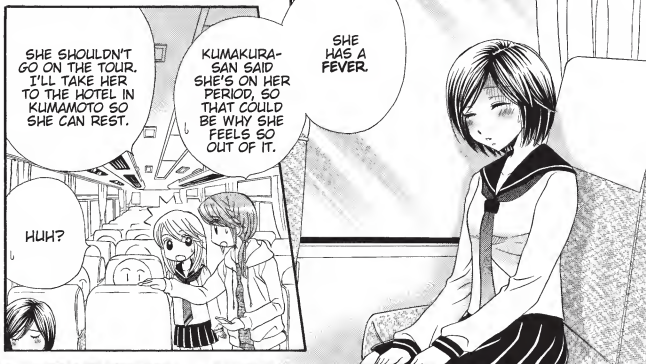
I WAS
REALLY
EXCITED.



EVEN
THOUGH
I HAVEN'T
HEARD IT
DIRECTLY
FROM
HER YET.







MT. ASO'S
CALDERA*
LAKE.

*A caldera is a piece of collapsed land near a volcano.

AWESOME!

WOW!

COOL!

IS MARI
OKAY?

SHE
HASN'T
REPLIED
TO MY
TEXTS.

OWW!!!

SLAP

WHAT'S
UP,
AKKO?!

SIGH...

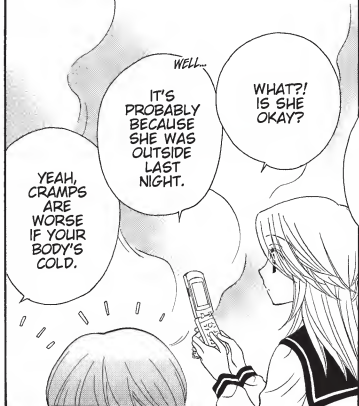
HEY, AREN'T
YOU GONNA
TAKE ANY
PICTURES?
YOU
KNOW
YOU
WANT
TO...

HEY, AREN'T
YOU GONNA
TAKE ANY
PICTURES?

TAMA-
MIN...

IT'S
BORING
WITHOUT
HER!

AND I
WANTED TO
CONTINUE
OUR CON-
VERSATION
FROM LAST
NIGHT...



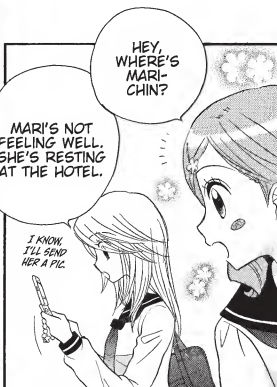
YEAH,
CRAMPS
ARE
WORSE
IF YOUR
BODY'S
COLD.

WELL...
IT'S
PROBABLY
BECAUSE
SHE WAS
OUTSIDE
LAST NIGHT.

WHAT?!
IS SHE
OKAY?

MARI'S NOT
FEELING WELL.
SHE'S RESTING
AT THE HOTEL.

I KNOW,
I'LL SEND
HER A PIC.



HEY,
WHERE'S
MARI-
CHIN?

SHE WAS
LOOKING
PRETTY
PALE WHEN
WE FOUND
HER.

YEAH.



OH YEAH,
YOU WERE
ASLEEP
FOR THAT,
WEREN'T
YOU?



OUT-
SIDE?
WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?



SHE
WAS
OUT-
SIDE?
ALL
NIGHT?



NO
WONDER
SHE
GOT
SICK!

IT'S
REALLY
COLD
HERE
AT
NIGHT!



AROUND
MIDNIGHT,
MARI-CHIN
RAN OUT
OF THE
ROOM.
WE
FOUND
HER ON
THE
BALCONY.

SHE SAID
SHE WAS
ENJOY-
ING THE
SCENERY.

I
WANNA
BUY A
SPONGE
CAKE.

WELL...

WE
HAVEN'T
DECIDED YET,
BUT WE'RE
THINKING
ABOUT
GOING TO
CHINATOWN.

HEY, WHAT
WERE YOU
GUYS GOING
TO DO DURING
YOUR FREE
TIME?

I JUST
THOUGHT...

SHE
WAS BEING
SHY THIS
MORNING.

HEY!

HEY!

AH!

AKKO,
THAT'S IN
FUKUOKA.

LET'S
GO!
♡
PLEASE!
♡

THEY
SELL A
TON OF
CUTE
STUFF...

THE KOI
NO KI
SHRINE!

HEY!!

WE SHOULD
GO HERE!

WAIT!

SO?

WHAT?

WE
GO TO
FUKUOKA
ON THE
LAST
DAY...

AND THE
SCHEDULE'S
PACKED!
THERE'S NO
TIME TO GO
TO THE
SHRINE.

KYUSHU



IT WAS
THE ONE
SPOT I
REALLY
WANTED
TO SEE,
TOO!

IT WAS
GOING
TO BE SO
ROMANTIC,
JUST MARI
AND ME...



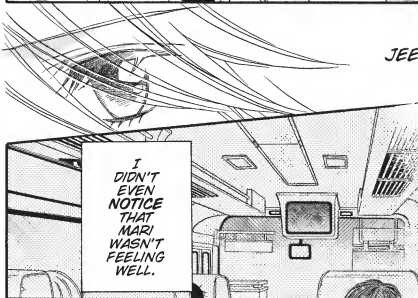
DAMN
IT!

I SUCK
AT PLAN-
NING
AHEAD.

IT SAYS RIGHT
HERE IN THE
ITINERARY...

HAHA

SO
MUCH
FOR
THAT...



JEEZ...

WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH
ME?

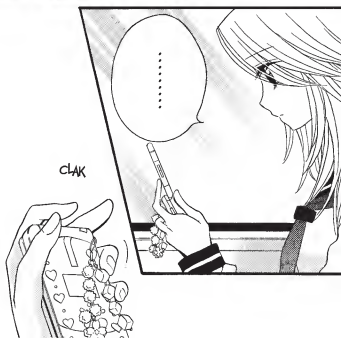
I'M SO
SELFISH.

I
DIDN'T
EVEN
NOTICE
THAT
MARI
WASN'T
FEELING
WELL.

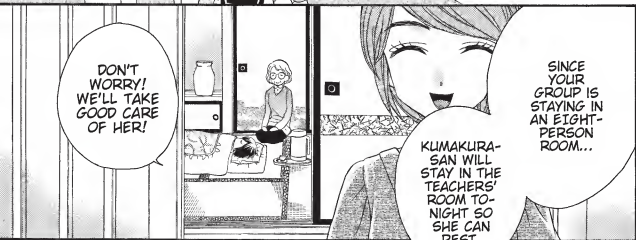


IT'S
ALL...

MY
FAULT.



CLAK





WHAT? A
FERRY?!

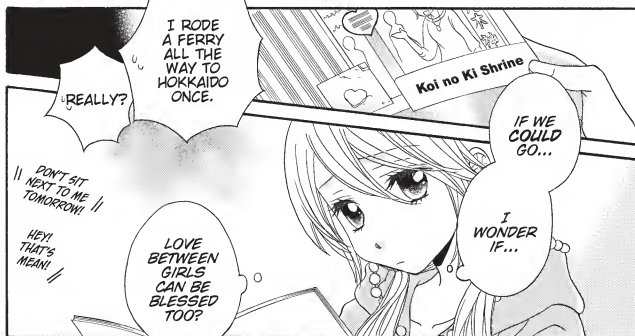
OH MAN,
I GET
SEASICK
REALLY
EASILY!

I
HOPE
SHE
DOESN'T
GET SEA-
SICK.

WE'RE
RIDING
A FERRY
TOMOR-
ROW...

YEAH.

IT WOULD
SUCK IF SHE
MISSED OUT
ON ANY MORE
OF THE TRIP.



REALLY?

I RODE
A FERRY
ALL THE
WAY TO
HOKKAIDO
ONCE.

IF WE
COULD
GO...

I
WONDER
IF...

// DON'T SIT
NEXT TO ME
TOMORROW! //

HEY!
THAT'S
MEAN! //

LOVE
BETWEEN
GIRLS
CAN BE
BLESSED
TOO?

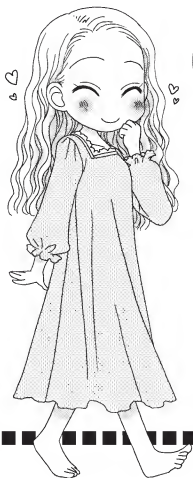
Koi no Ki Shrine



I
WASN'T
ALLOWED
TO LOVE
HER.

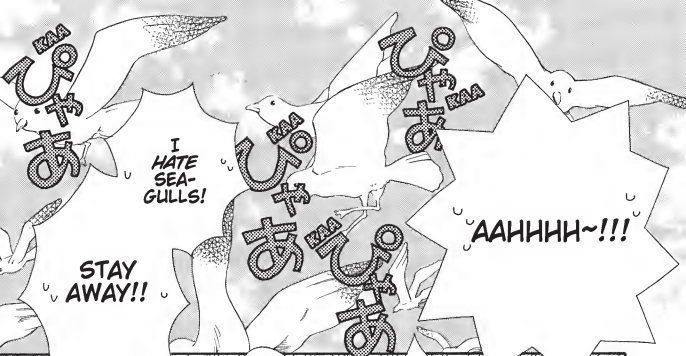
WAS
TELLING
ME...

IT
SEEMED
LIKE THE
GOD OF
LOVE...



I BOUGHT THIS PRINCESS
NIGHTGOWN FOR THE CLASS
TRIP! ♡ I PROMISED TO SEND
MY PRINCE A "GOOD NIGHT"
EMAIL WITH A PHOTO OF
ME EVERY NIGHT. ♡

GIRL FRIENDS — ガールフレンズ —



I
HATE
SEA-
GULLS!

STAY
AWAY!!

AAHHHH~!!!

SQUEE!

IT ATE FROM
MY HAND! TRY
FEEDING THEM
SNACKS,
TAGUCHI!

THEY'RE
RATS
WITH
WINGS!

NO
THEY'RE
NOT!

AWW,
THEY'RE
CUTE!

NO WAY!
THEY'LL
PECK
MY EYES
OUT!!



AND
SO WE
LEFT
MT. ASO.

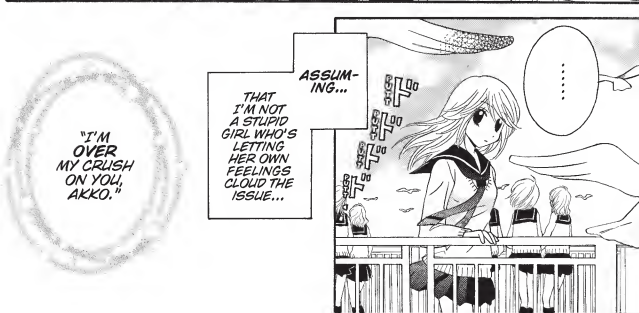
.....

DASH

I HATE
YOU TWO!
MARI-CHIN,
SAVE ME!!

THIS
ISN'T
"THE
BIRDS."





[CHAPTER 26]

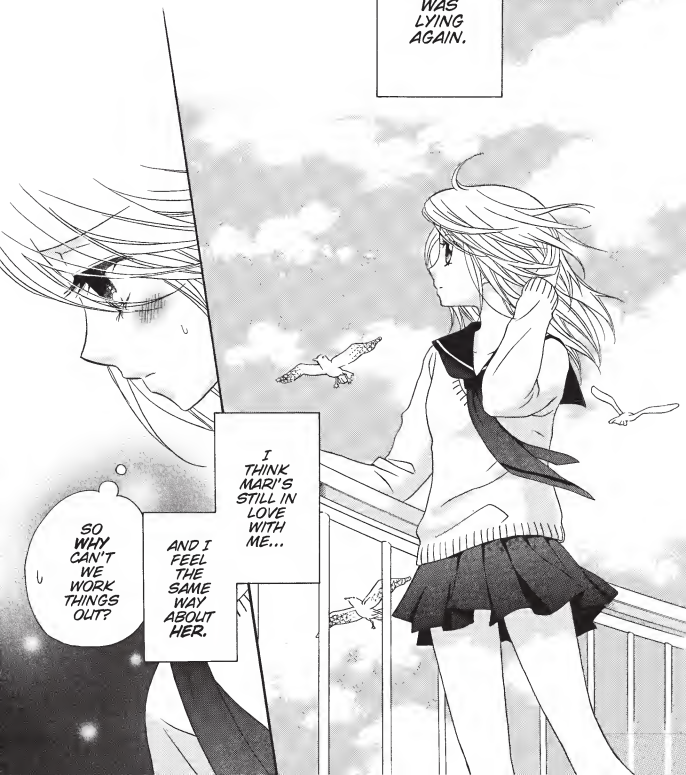
I'M
PRETTY
SURE...

MARI
WAS
LYING
AGAIN.

I
THINK
MARI'S
STILL IN
LOVE
WITH
ME...

SO
WHY
CAN'T
WE
WORK
THINGS
OUT?

AND I
FEEL
THE
SAME
WAY
ABOUT
HER.

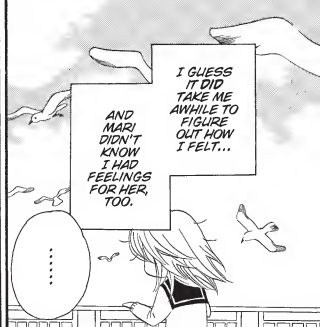




AND
MARI RAN
OUT OF
THE ROOM
AND GOT
SICK.

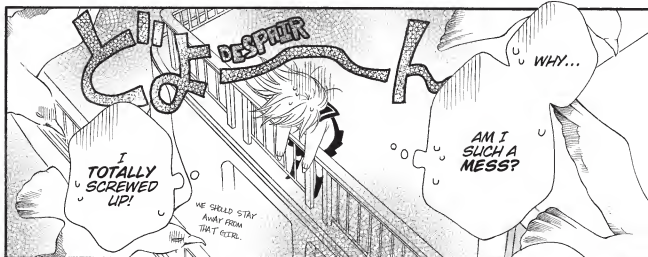
THEN MARI
SAID SHE
HAD GIVEN
UP ON HER
CRUSH,
AND WE
FOUGHT...

I...
KINDA
LOST
IT...



AND
MARI
DIDN'T
KNOW
I HAD
FEELINGS
FOR HER,
TOO.

I GUESS
IT DID
TAKE ME
AWHILE TO
FIGURE
OUT HOW
I FELT...



I
TOTALLY
SCREWED
UP!

WE SHOULD STAY
AWAY FROM
THAT GUILD.

AM I
SUCH A
MESS?

WHY...



PROBABLY.
THEY'RE
WEARING
THE SAME
UNIFORM AS
THE OTHERS...
BUT THEY'RE
SO MUCH
MORE
MATURE...

ARE
THEY
HIGH
SCHOOL
GIRLS
TOO?

WHOA!

GET
LOST,
YOU
PERVY
OLD
FARTS!

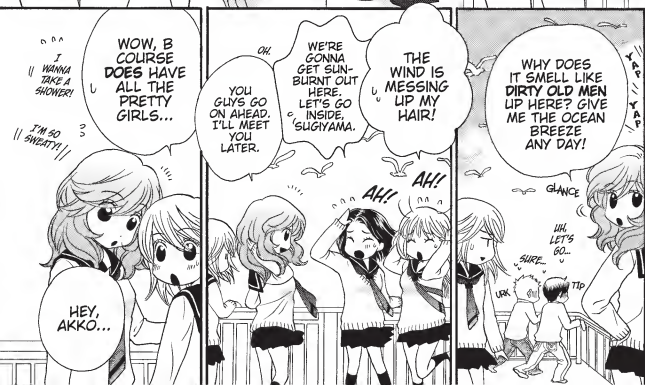
I'M
TRYING
TO
ANGST
HERE!

YEAH,
THEY'RE
SO DAMN
NOISY!

AND THE
SKIRTS SURE
WEREN'T
THAT SHORT
IN MY DAY.

MAN,
THIS
SHIP IS
FULL OF
HIGH
SCHOOL
GIRLS!

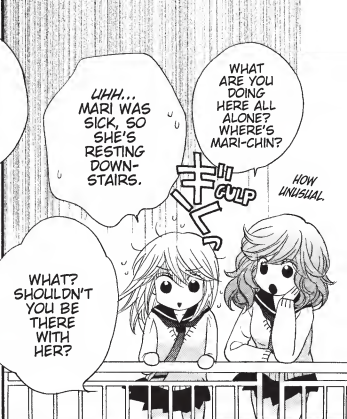
SAVER
SAVER





BESIDES,
I'M NOT
SURE SHE
WANTS ME
AROUND.

I'M
NOT
MUCH
HELP...



UHH...
MARI WAS
SICK, SO
SHE'S
RESTING
DOWN-
STAIRS.

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE ALL
ALONE?
WHERE'S
MARI-CHIN?

HOW
UNUSUAL.

WHAT?
SHOULDN'T
YOU BE
THERE
WITH
HER?



NOT
REALLY...

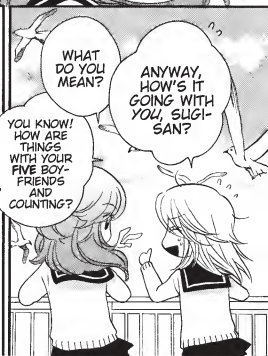
DON'T
TELL ME
YOU TWO
ARE
FIGHTING
AGAIN?

WHY IS
SHE
POLTING?



OH,
THAT...

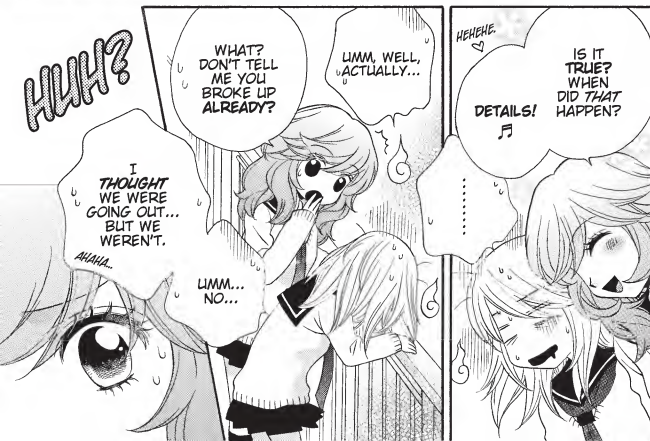
I RAN
INTO A
PROBLEM.



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

YOU KNOW!
HOW ARE
THINGS
WITH YOUR
FIVE BOY-
FRIENDS
AND
COUNTING?

ANYWAY,
HOW'S IT
GOING WITH
YOU, SLUGI-
SAN?





AH...

I THOUGHT
MY FRIEND
ASKED ME
OUT... AND
I THOUGHT
I GAVE
A CLEAR
"YES"...

UHH,
WELL...

JEEZ,
AKKO,
WHAT
HAPPEN-
ED?

BASI-
CALLY...

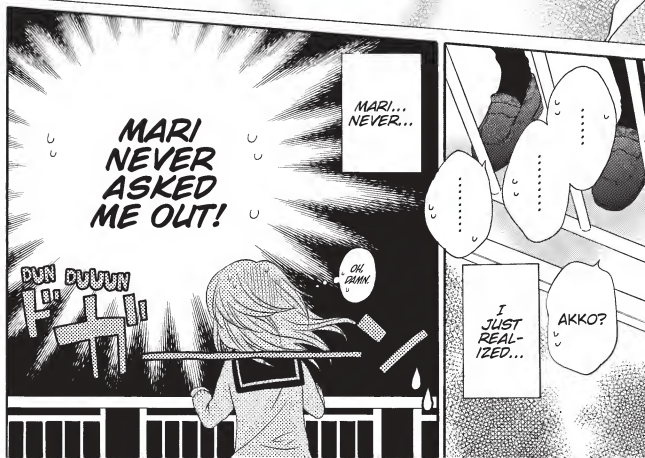
BUT
FOR SOME
REASON
WE EACH
GOT THE
WRONG
IDEA.

PRETTY
STUPID,
HUH?

WAIT.

WHAT
EXACTLY
DID MARI
SAY THAT
DAY?

"SO IF
WE COULD
STILL BE
FRIENDS,
I'D BE
REALLY
HAPPY.



**MARI
NEVER
ASKED
ME OUT!**

MARI...
NEVER...

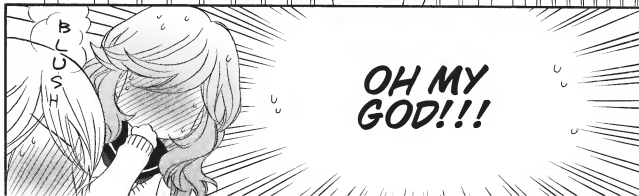
DUN DUUN
F H

OH,
DAMN.

I
JUST
REAL-
IZED...

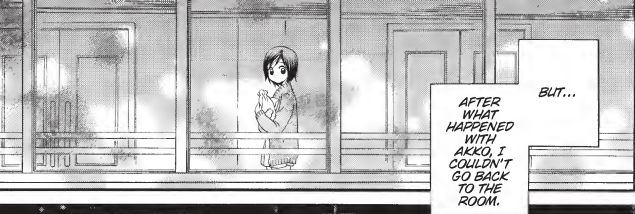
AKKO?











BUT...

AFTER
WHAT
HAPPENED
WITH
AKKO, I
COULDN'T
GO BACK
TO THE
ROOM.

THE
COLD
EVENING
BREEZE
DIDN'T
HELP...

MY
BODY
STILL
FELT
HOT...



ALL
OVER...

BLUSH

.....

SQUEEZE

WAS
THE
BATH
BUSY?

HEY!

WELCOME
BACK,
MARI-CHIN!

I
CAN'T
FREAK
OUT
LIKE
THAT
AGAIN.

G
H
-
C
H
A
K

!

NO,
NOT
AT ALL.

I
DON'T
WANT
TO PUT
AKKO
THROUGH
ANY
MORE
DRAMA.

DID YOU
SEE THE
PRETTY
LIGHTS
IN THE
HALLWAY?

BA-THUMP

Y-
YES...

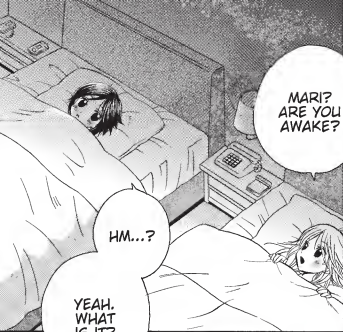
I
JUST
HAVE TO
PLAY IT
COOL FOR
THE REST
OF THE
TRIP.

BUT IT
LOOKED
LIKE A
RAINBOW.

THE
RAINBOW
BRIDGE IS
ONLY IN
TOKYO!
RIGHT,
MARI?

BUT THEY
TURNED OFF
THE LIGHTS TO
THE RAINBOW
BRIDGE A FEW
MINUTES
AGO.

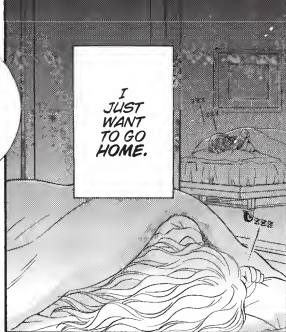
MAYBE IT'S "A"
RAINBOW BRIDGE,
BUT IT'S NOT "THE"
RAINBOW BRIDGE.



MARI?
ARE YOU
AWAKE?

HM...?

YEAH.
WHAT
IS IT?

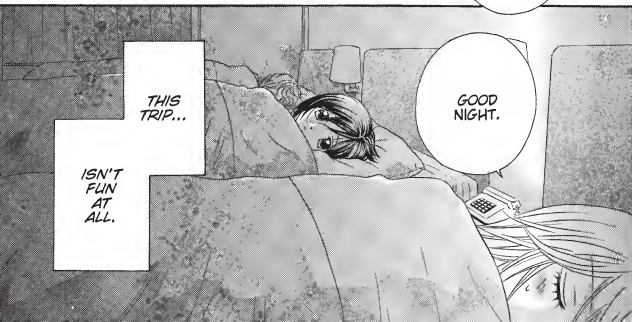


I
JUST
WANT
TO GO
HOME.



RUSTLE

.....
N-
NEVER
MIND.

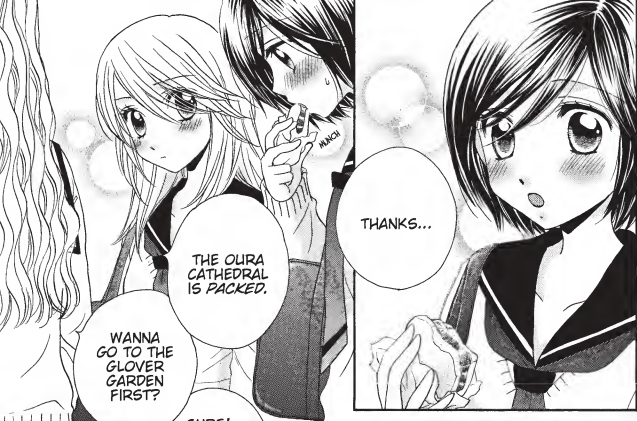


THIS
TRIP...

ISN'T
FUN
AT
ALL.

GOOD
NIGHT.





AKKO-CHAN,
LONG TIME
NO SEE! "

OH HO
HO HO
HO HO!

TAMA-
MIN?!
WHAT
ARE YOU
WEARING?

FOR
REAL?!

NO, I
HAD MY OWN
UMBRELLA
AND FAN WITH ME.

ACCESSORIES
CAN MAKE
OR BREAK A
COSTUME

WOW!
DO THEY
RENT
THESE,
TOO?

TAMA-MIN,
YOU'RE
HAVING A
BLAST ON
THIS TRIP,
AREN'T
YOU?

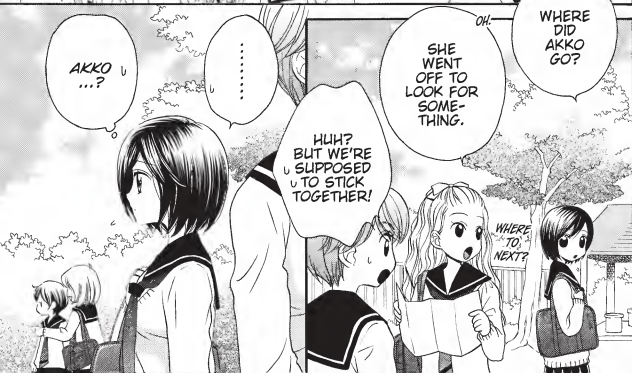
THEY
RENT OUT
VICTORIAN
COSTUMES
HERE! YOU
SHOULD
GET ONE,
AKKO.

NO
WAY.

IT'S LIKE A
COSTUME BALL

BIG
GRAND

EXCUSE
ME, CAN
WE TAKE
YOUR
PICTURE?





MARI-CHIN,
WERE YOU
ABLE TO
REACH
AKKO?

EH?



WHAT
DO YOU
WANNA
SEE NEXT?
THE OURA
CATHEDRAL?
OR HOLLAND
SLOPE?

SHESHS
SHESHS

THIS IS
THE LAST
BUILDING,
THE GLOVER
RESIDENCE.

THERE'S
SUPPOSED
TO BE A
MIRROR
THAT
DOESN'T
REFLECT.

WHAT'S
THE POINT
OF THAT?



SHOULD WE
ASK THE
STAFF TO
CALL HER
OVER THE
P.A.?

SHEESH,
WE CAN'T
GO TO THE
NEXT SPOT
WITHOUT
HER.

NO,
NOT
YET...



SIGH...

AKKO,
WHERE
ARE
YOU?

OH,
ME
TOO.

GOOD
IDEA, BUT
I'M GOING
TO THE
BATHROOM
FIRST.

AH.

I'LL
WAIT
HERE.

"CHECK
OUT THIS
CUTE
HEART-
SHAPED
STONE
THEY
HAVE!"

HEY, WAIT A
SECOND...

HMMM

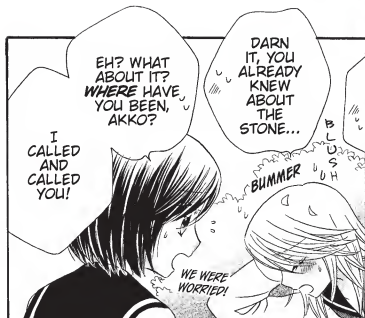
.....
?

OH, I
REMEMBER
AKKO
TALKING
ABOUT
THAT.

COULD
THIS
BE...?

LURCH

THERE
IT IS! I
FOUND
THE
HEART-
SHAPED
STONE!!



EH? WHAT ABOUT IT? WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, AKKO?

DARN IT, YOU ALREADY KNEW ABOUT THE STONE...

I CALLED AND CALLED YOU!

WE WERE WORRIED!

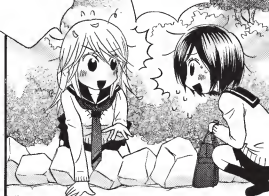
BUMMER

BLUSH

MARI?!

WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN THE BUSHES?

AKKO?!



YOU MEAN YOU'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR THIS STONE THE WHOLE TIME?

WHY?

?

HUH? YOU MEAN YOU WEREN'T LOOKING FOR THIS, MARI?



HEART-STONE?

THIS IS CALLED THE "HEART-STONE."

I WANTED TO FIND IT AS A SURPRISE FOR MARI, BUT...

RUSTLE

WELL...

ERR...





THE
PERSON
YOU
LOVE?

WHY
WOULD
AKKO
...?

THE TWO
OF YOU
WILL GET
TOGETHER.

IF YOU
TOUCH THE
STONE WHILE
THINKING OF
THE PERSON
YOU LOVE...



?

WORTH
A TRY,
RIGHT?

TEE.
HEE!
♥

BUT
I'LL TAKE
WHATEVER
HELP I
CAN GET!

I DON'T
KNOW IF IT'S
AS EFFECTIVE
AS SHRINE
CHARMS...



MARI...

I
DON'T THINK
I CAN BE
HAPPY WITH
JUST BEING
FRIENDS.

UM...
AND
MAYBE
I'M JUST
BEING A
MAJOR
PAIN,
BUT...

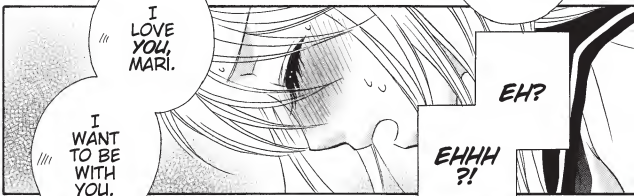
LOOK,
MARI...

I
KNOW YOU
MIGHT NOT
FEEL THIS
WAY ANY-
MORE...



EH?

I...
WANT TO
GO OUT
WITH THE
PERSON
I LOVE.



I
LOVE
YOU,
MARI.

I
WANT
TO BE
WITH
YOU.

EH?

EHHH
?!



WILL
YOU...

GO
OUT
WITH
ME?

WHAAAAT?!



I BROUGHT MY USUAL
OUTFIT. IT'S TOO COLD
IN THE WINTER TO SLEEP
NAKED. I DON'T WEAR
UNDERCLOTHES AT HOME
BECAUSE IT LEAVES
MARKS, YOU KNOW?

GIRL FRIENDS — ガールフレンズ —

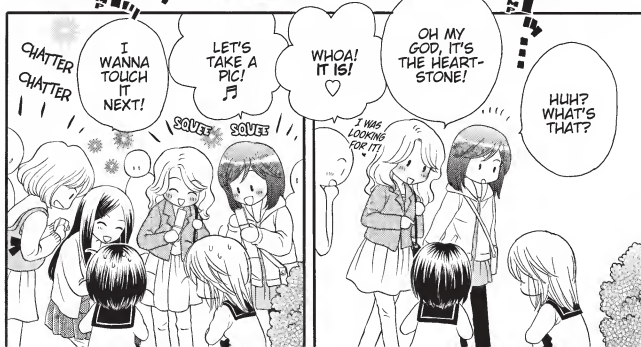
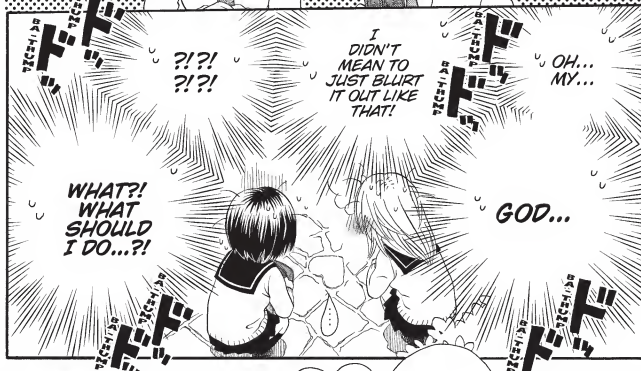
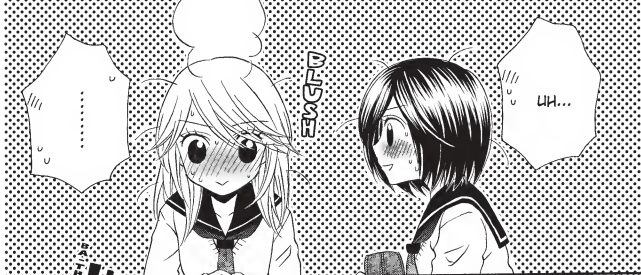
[CHAPTER 27]



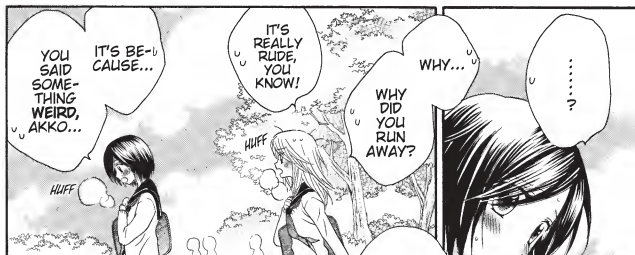
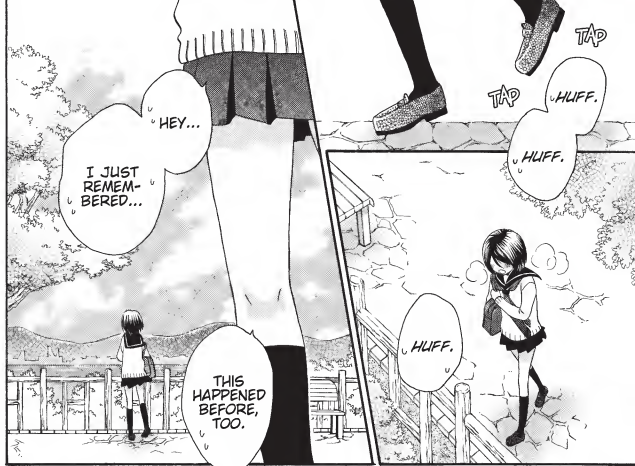
I
LOVE
YOU,
MARI.

I
WANT
TO BE
WITH
YOU.

WILL YOU...
GO OUT
WITH ME?









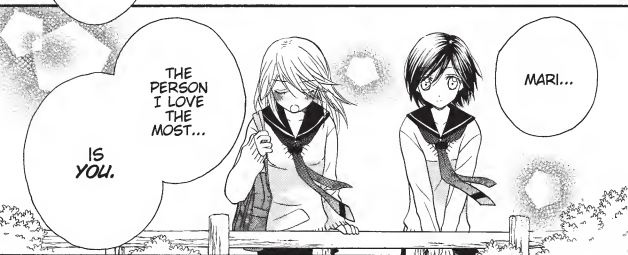
BUT...

I
CAN'T
STOP
FEELING
THIS
WAY.



I
GUESS
IT'S
WEIRD.

I
THOUGHT
SO TOO AT
FIRST...



THE
PERSON
I LOVE
THE
MOST...

IS
YOU.

MARI...



IT'S
OKAY...
YOU
DON'T
HAVE
TO.

THAT'S WHAT I
USED TO THINK.

EVEN
IF SHE
ONLY
DATED
ME OUT
OF PITY,
I JUST
WANTED
TO BE
WITH
AKKO.

BUT NOW
THAT IT'S
ACTUALLY
HAPPENING,
I'M SHAKING
WITH FEAR.

I KNOW
YOU CARE
ABOUT YOUR
FRIENDS
A LOT.

AKKO,
YOU DON'T
HAVE
TO SAY
THAT.

OH
MY...

GOSH...



I
NEVER
THOUGHT
...



I
SHOULD
BE
HAPPY,
BUT...

DON'T
YOU
BELIEVE
ME?

MARI...

BUT...

YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND
WHAT I
WANT
FROM YOU,
AKKO.

I
CAN'T...
DO
THIS...



HUH?

ACTU-
ALLY...

I KINDA
THOUGHT
WE WERE
GOING OUT
ALREADY.

WE
DON'T
HAVE A
CHANCE
...

THIS
WOULD
EVER
ACTU-
ALLY
HAPPEN.

WHY
NOT?!

YOU DON'T
KNOW IF
IT'LL WORK
UNLESS
YOU TRY!





KISS-
ED...

BECAUSE
YOU SAID
YOU LOVED
ME...

WHY?!

WHAAAT?!

AND
THEN I
KISSED
YOU! I
MEAN,
C'MON!

JEEZ



THAT'S
NOT THE
POINT.

OKAY,
FINE! I
PROMISE
NOT TO KISS
SUGI-SAN AND
TAMA-MIN
ANYMORE!
AT ALL!

YOU
DON'T
GET
IT...

ARE YOU
HAPPY?!

THIS IS
CRAZY.

OKAY...

SO...



B-BUT...
DON'T YOU
KISS ALL
YOUR
FRIENDS,
AKKO?

I
THOUGHT
YOU WERE
JUST
TRYING TO
CALM ME
DOWN.

I...

I DIDN'T
KNOW! I
HAVEN'T
KISSED
PEOPLE
AS MUCH
AS YOU
HAVE!

HUH?

YOU DON'T
USUALLY
SLIP A
FRIEND THE
TONGUE!
GOT IT?!

AREVE

SQUEE



THEN
WILL YOU
BELIEVE
ME?

IF I
KISS
YOU,
NOT AS
A FRIEND
BUT AS A
LOVER...



WHAT?

BLUSH



MARI, I
WANTED TO
BE YOUR
FRIEND FOR
A LONG TIME,
SO I
TALKED
TO YOU...

I
DIDN'T
KNOW IF
IT WOULD
WORK OUT,
BUT IT
DID!



STILL
LIKE ME,
EVEN A
LITTLE...

AND IF
YOU...

I
REALLY
LIKE
YOU,
MARI!

I
WANT
TO BE
MORE
THAN
YOUR
FRIEND,
MARI.

I THINK
WE'LL BE
HAPPIER
IF WE'RE
TOGETHER...

THAT'S
ALL!

I'M
PRETTY
SIMPLE,
AREN'T
I?

AHAHA...

ALL
OF MY
HANG-
UPS...

YOU'RE
NOT
SIMPLE.

YOU'RE
...



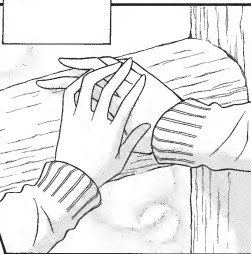
!

WERE
BLOWN
AWAY...

BY
YOUR
SMILE.



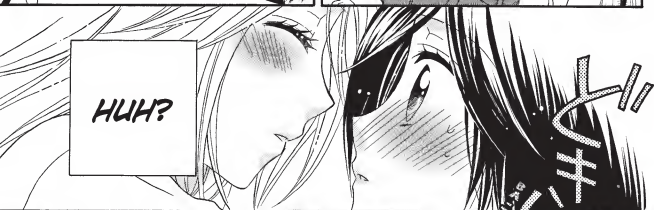
I
LOVE
YOU
TOO.



I'VE WAITED
SO LONG...

TO
SAY
THAT.







OH, IT'S
KUNO-
CHAN... I
FORGOT
TO CALL
HER...

AHH!

!!

F!

RACSTRUMP



S-
SORRY.
I'M WITH
AKKO.

JEEZ! WHEN
WE GOT OUT OF
THE BATHROOM,
YOU WERE GONE!
FIRST AKKO,
NOW YOU!!

MARI-
CHIN?!
WHERE
ARE
YOU?!



PHLEK

WHERE
ARE YOU
GUYS?!
C'MON!

REALLY?!
PUT A
LEASH
ON THAT
GIRL!

THANK
GOD!

SHE
FOUND
AKKO.



SURE...!

IS IT
OKAY
TO BE
THIS
HAPPY?

SHE
SAID
IT WAS
BECAUSE
OF ME.

AKKO'S
HAND
WASN'T
SHAKING
ANYMORE.



FLUKI-
OKA.

YAWN...



DID YOU
NOT GET
ENOUGH
SLEEP?

YES,
I'M
JUST
SLEEPY.

MARI,
YOU'VE
BEEN
YAWNING
ALL
MORNING.
ARE YOU
OKAY?

DID
YOU GET
CARSICK?



URK...

HOW
WOULD YOU
KNOW, AKKO?
YOU SLEEP
THROUGH
IT!

I DON'T
SNORE!!

HEY.

AKKO'S
SNORING
PROBABLY
KEPT YOU
UP!

(LIE)

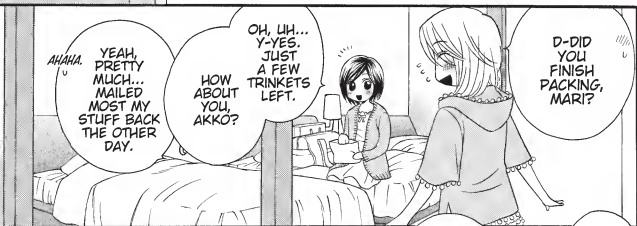
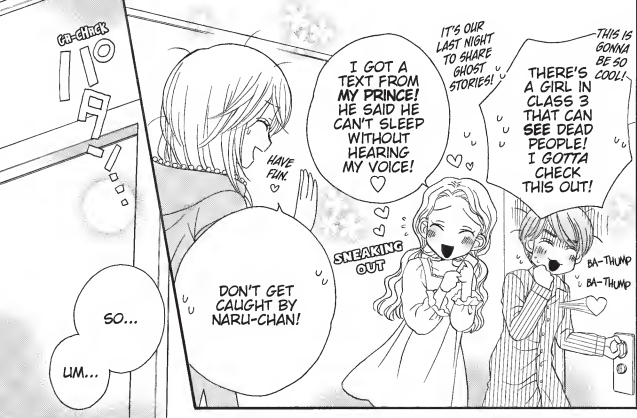
MURMUR

MURMUR

LAST
NIGHT...

CHATTER
CHATTER

•
•
•
•
•
•





GLANCE

AKKO...?



AKKO,
WAIT...!

BATHTUB



I...
I'M NOT
READY!

OH MY
GOSH
...!!

BATHTUB



OUT COLD

HER



WHAT'S
WRONG,
MARI-
CHIN?

OH GOSH,
I'M HAVING
DIRTY
THOUGHTS
AGAIN!!

NO!! IT'S
NOT LIKE I
WAS WAITING
FOR HER OR
ANYTHING!!

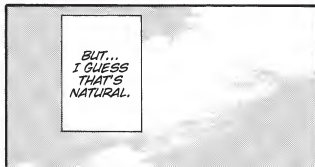
SHAKE

SHAKE



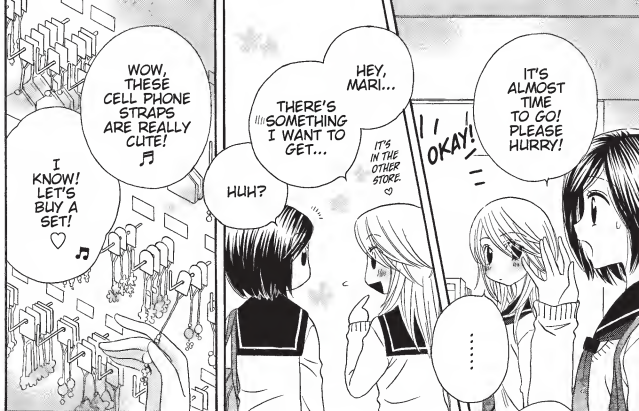
LAST
NIGHT
...

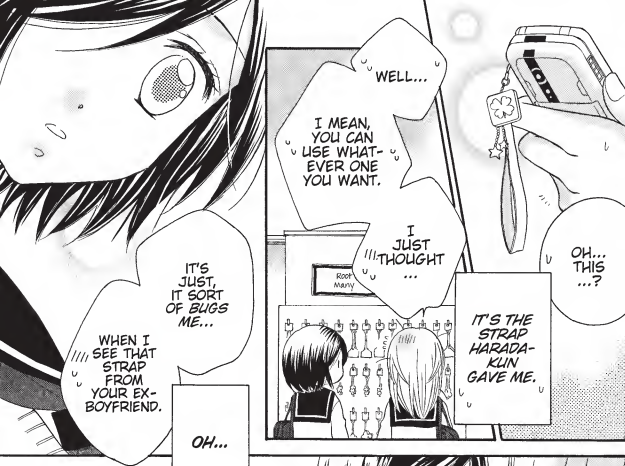
I
COULDN'T
SLEEP
A WINK.



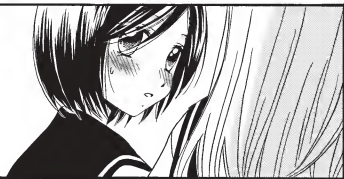
BUT...
I GUESS
THAT'S
NATURAL.







I REALLY
DIDN'T
REALIZE...



**REALLY
LOVES
ME.**

**MARI-CHAN,
WHAT STATION
DO YOU
GO HOME
THROUGH?**

**LET'S WEAR
LOTS OF CUTE
CLOTHES AND
TAKE A TON OF
PRINT CLUB
PHOTOS!**

**SO...
IF WE
COULD JUST
BE FRIENDS...
THAT'S ALL
I WANT.**

**IT'S NOT
MARI'S FAULT
AT ALL!**

**IT
MAKES
ME SO
MAD!**



I WANT
TO BE MORE
THAN FRIENDS
WITH YOU,
MARI.



WHA...

ACK?

MARI?!



MARI-
CHIN?!
WHAT'S
WRONG?

EH?
?

I'M
SORRY!

IT'S
OKAY!
YOU CAN
USE
WHATEVER
STRAP
YOU WANT!

IS
EVERY-
THING
OKAY?

I'M SO
GLAD...

I
FELL
IN
LOVE
WITH
HER.

Fukuoka Airport Domestic

SHE WAS
PROBABLY
THINKING
ABOUT
HER EX...

WITH
OUR
CLASS
TRIP
AT AN
END...

I HOPE
AKKO CAN
CHEER HER
UP...

IT'S
CUT!
YOU
KEPT
TALKING
ABOUT
YOUR
"PRINCE!"

IT WAS
TIME TO
RETURN
TO OUR
NORMAL
LIVES.

HIS
NOVICE
COSPLAY
WAS
SUPER-
DUPER
CUTE!

BY THE WAY...
THE
BOY YOU
BROUGHT
LAST TIME
WAS SO
MOE!

WHAT'LL
YOU
WEAR?

LET'S DO
VICTORIAN
COSPLAY
AGAIN
SOMETIME!

YEAH!
WE'RE
PLANNING
SOMETHING
SPECIAL
FOR
CHRISTMAS--

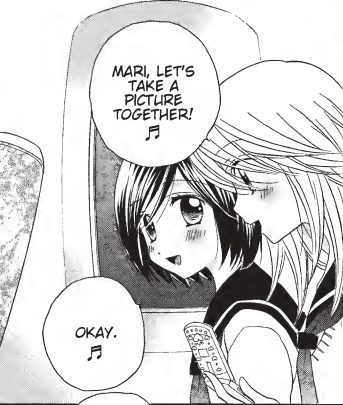
SO,
YOU'RE
GOING
OUT
WITH YOUR
TUTOR?

WILL
BE
LIKE
IT
WAS
BEFORE.

BUT
NOT
EVERY-
THING...

IS HE
GOING
TO COME
AGAIN?

"THEY'RE
TALKING
ABOUT
HARADA-
KUN..."

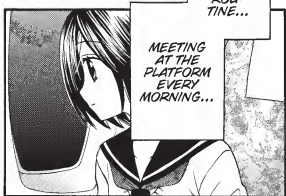


MARI, LET'S
TAKE A
PICTURE
TOGETHER!
♪

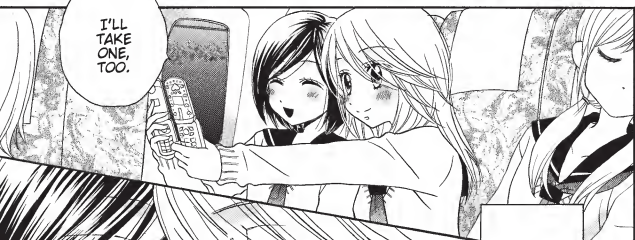
OKAY.
♪



SURE,
WE'LL
GO BACK
TO OUR
USUAL
ROUTINE...



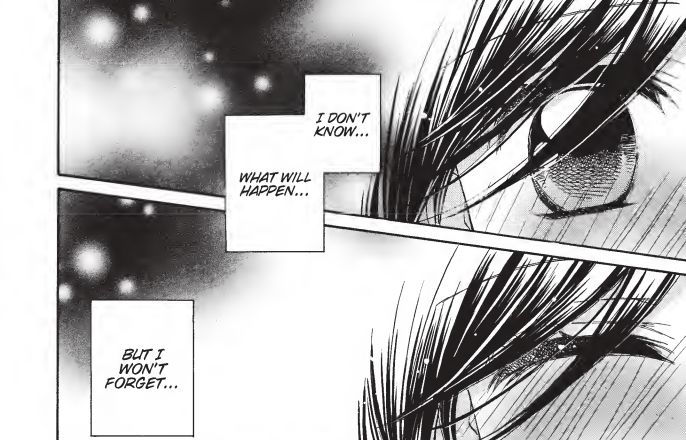
MEETING
AT THE
PLATFORM
EVERY
MORNING...



I'LL
TAKE
ONE,
TOO.



BUT
BEYOND
THAT...



I DON'T
KNOW...

WHAT WILL
HAPPEN...

BUT I
WON'T
FORGET...



WHAT
HAPPENED
TODAY.
EVER.

ROAR!!

I BOUGHT BRAND NEW
KAKU PJAMAS FOR THE
CLASS TRIP! I BOUGHT
'EM AT THE DON QUIJOTE
SHOP AREN'T THEY JUST
THE CUTEST THING?!



GIRL FRIENDS — ガールフレンズ —

PLATFORM
5, SOBA
LINE LOCAL
TRAIN TO
MITAKA.

THE
TRAIN
WILL
DEPART
SHORTLY.

Akihabara

AND WE
WENT
BACK
TO OUR
EVERY-
DAY
LIVES.

THE
CLASS
TRIP
ENDED...

SHOULD
WE WAIT
FOR THE
NEXT
TRAIN?
WE HAVE
TIME...

NO
WAY!

THIS
IS THE
ONE I
WANT!

SQUEEZE

C'MON,
MARI!!

WHAT?

WHY?

SQUEEZE

AHH!

WOW!
THIS
CAR'S
REALLY
CROWDED!

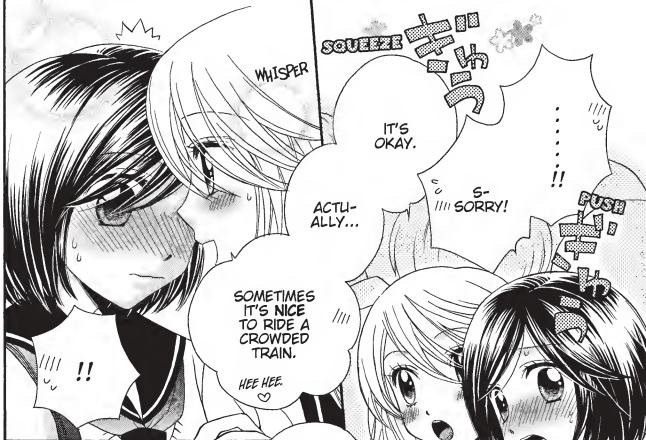
PLEASE
EMBARK
IN AN
ORDERLY
FASHION.

SQUEEZE

SQUEEZE

YEAH,
IT JUST
CAME FROM
CHIBA. NO
WONDER IT'S
PACKED.

I SEE...
WE ALWAYS
RODE THE
ONE TO
NAKANO.



WHISPER

IT'S OKAY.

ACTUALLY...

S-
SORRY!

SOMETIMES
IT'S NICE
TO RIDE A
CROWDED
TRAIN.

HEE HEE
♡

THAT'S
TRUE...

TOO BAD
IT'S ONLY
FOR ONE
STOP.

MOST OF
THE CROWD
WILL SWITCH
OVER TO THE
EXPRESS
TRAIN AT
OCHANOMIZU.



EH?!

WITH
THAT
LITTLE
THING?

FLINCH

PLUS...

IF
ANYONE
TRIES TO
GROPE YOU,
I'LL CUT
'EM!

SAFETY PIN

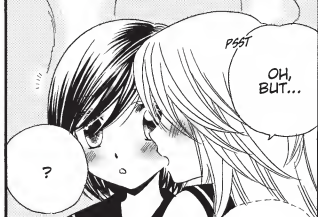


IT
WAS
THE
SAME
AS
ALWAYS
...

BUT ALSO
TOTALLY
DIFFERENT.



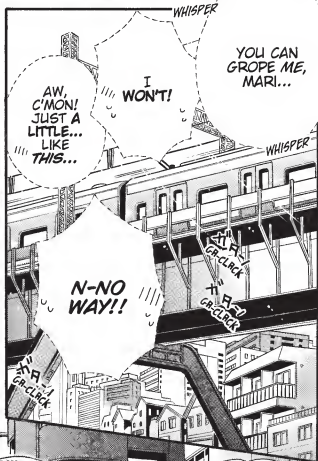
HEY!



PSST

OH,
BUT...

?



WHISPER

YOU CAN
GROPE ME,
MARI...

I
WON'T!

AW,
C'MON!
JUST A
LITTLE...
LIKE
THIS...

WHISPER

N-NO
WAY!!

GR-CLACK

GR-CLACK

GR-CLACK



AKKO!

MARI-
CHIN!



HOW
YOU
DOING,
SUGI-
SAN?

MORNING,
GIRLS!

[CHAPTER 28]

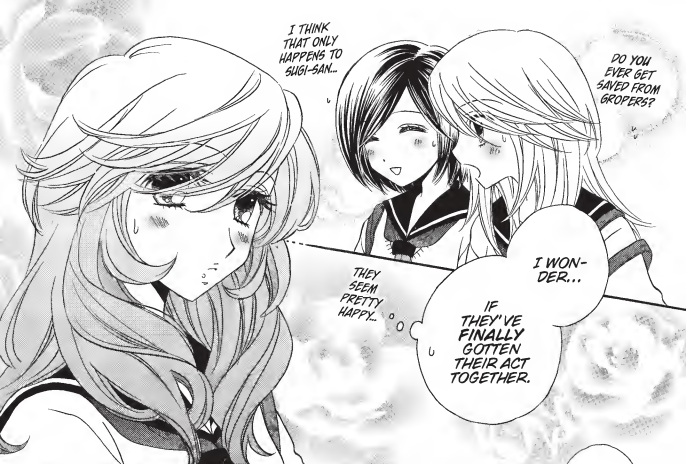
BUT...

THIS IS
SUGI-SAN'S
STORY.



SUGI-SAN RODE THE NANBOKU LINE TODAY!





I THINK
THAT ONLY
HAPPENS TO
SUGI-SAN...

DO YOU
EVER GET
SAVED FROM
GROPPERS?

THEY
SEEM
PRETTY
HAPPY...

I WON-
DER...

IF
THEY'VE
FINALLY
GOTTEN
THEIR ACT
TOGETHER.



WOULD
IT BE
ALL RIGHT
TO ASK
THEM?

I DID
SAY
SOME
HARSH
STUFF
TO AKKO
BEFORE...



SEE
YA!

THEY'RE
ACTING SO
NORMAL.
IT'S HARD
TO TELL.



"IF
YOU WANT
TO STAY
FRIENDS
WITH THIS
GIRL..."

YOU
NEED TO
LET HER
DOWN
GENTLY."



THERE
WAS A
TIME...

WHEN
I WAS
LIKE
THAT TOO.



NO,
MARI-
CHIN
WAS
THE
BOLD
ONE.

BUT
AKKO...

JUST
CHARGED
AHEAD.

SHE
SEEMS
SO
TIMID,
BUT...

SHE'S
ACTUALLY
REALLY
TOUGH!

AKO BEING
READING A
LOT OF MANGA
MAYBE SHE
BECAME
FROM
TAKA-MARU

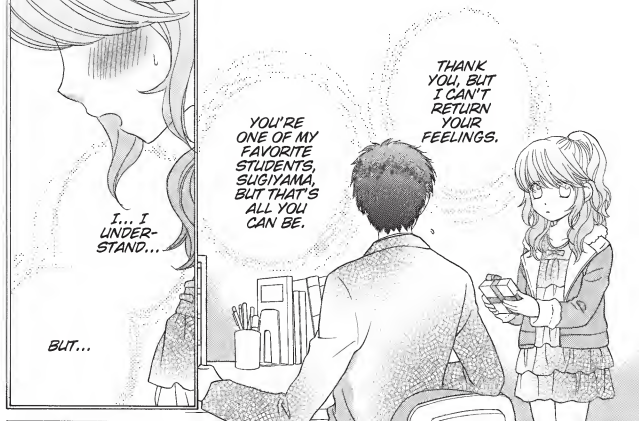


THEY'RE
BOTH
REALLY
BRAVE...
AND
PURE...

I'M A
LITTLE
JEALOUS.



I
REALLY
LIKE
YOU!

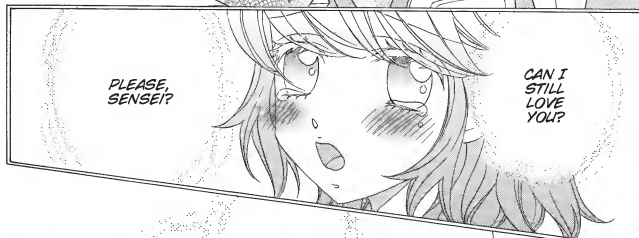


THANK
YOU, BUT
I CAN'T
RETURN
YOUR
FEELINGS.

YOU'RE
ONE OF MY
FAVORITE
STUDENTS,
SUGIYAMA,
BUT THAT'S
ALL YOU
CAN BE.

I... I
UNDER-
STAND...

BUT...



PLEASE,
SENSEI?

CAN I
STILL
LOVE
YOU?

ALL
RIGHT...



BUT ONLY
UNTIL YOU
FALL IN LOVE
WITH SOME-
ONE ELSE,
OKAY?

SUGIYAMA,
CAN I
BORROW
YOUR
HAIR
CURLER?

THAT WAS
THE BEST
I COULD
DO AS AN
ELEMEN-
TARY
STUDENT.

HEHE.

JEEZ...

I WAS
SUCH A
CHILD
THEN.

I WAS
JUST A
LITTLE
KID TO
HIM.

BUT
SINCE
THEN...

I'VE
LEARNED
WHAT
GUYS
LIKE.

I'M NOT GOOD
WITH CURLING
IRONS.

BUT
MY HAIR'S
GONE ALL
LIMP ON
ME...

YUP! IT'S
WITH MY
TUTOR!
♡

THANKS!
♡ I HAVE
HAIR
SPRAY,
TOO.
♡

SURE,
DO YOU
HAVE
A DATE
TODAY?

DO YOU
WANT ME
TO CURL
YOUR HAIR?

COULD
YOU?!

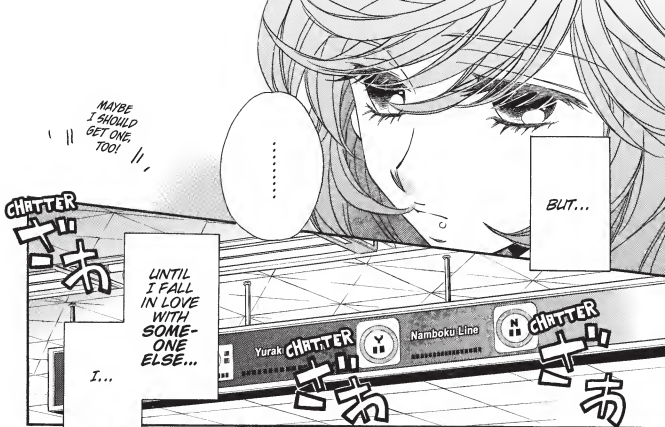
YEAH. IT'S
THE 38MM
MODEL. IT
MAKES
GREAT
CURLS!

MINE
IS A MODS
HAIR 32MM
MODEL.
♪

CHATTER
✚

CHATTER
✚

IS THAT
YOUR NEW
CURLER?
OOH, VIDAL
SASSOON?!





UNTIL
I FIND
A NEW
PERSON
TO
LOVE...

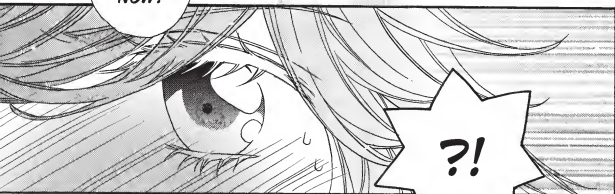
I
CAN'T
MOVE
ON
FROM
MY
OLD
CRUSH.

I WON-
DER...

WHAT
SENSEI'S
DOING
RIGHT
NOW?

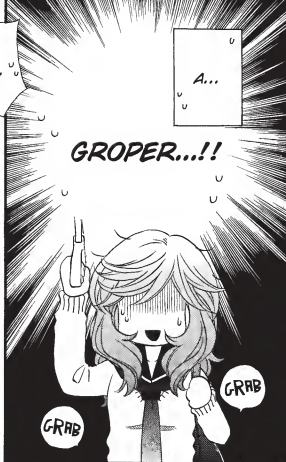
SIGH...

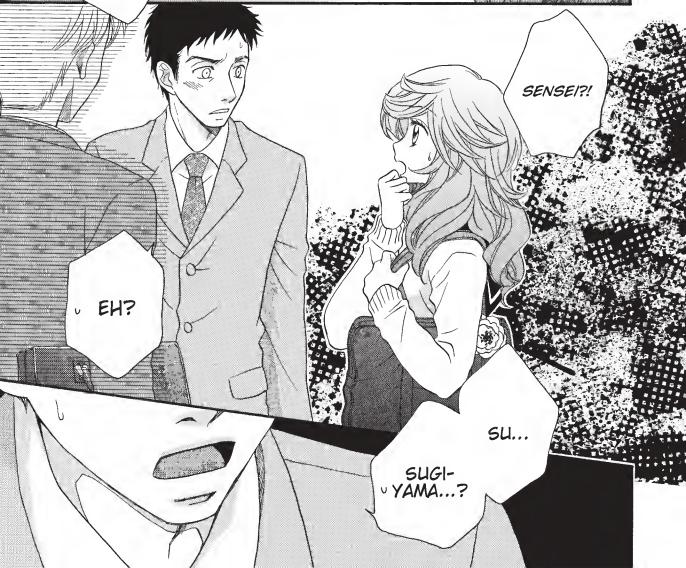
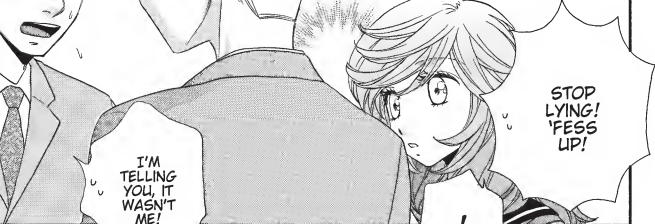
CLAK



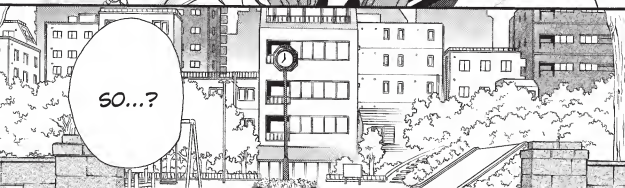
?!











SHEESH!

WHY'D YOU
CALL ME?
YOU'VE GOT
FIVE BOY-
FRIENDS!

WHY
DIDN'T YOU
ASK ONE
OF THEM TO
COME GET
YOU?

REALLY!

BE-
CAUSE

I'M
KINDA
PISSED OFF
AT MEN
RIGHT
NOW.

YOU
DON'T
USUALLY
GET THIS
MAD AT
GROPER.

SO...

WHAT'S
UP?

MAYBE
IT'S KARMA
FOR STRING-
ING BOYS
ALONG...

OH
GOD!

THAT'S...
HILARI-
OUS!!

A
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA!

HEE
HEE

THAT
HAS
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH
IT!

YOU
KNOW...

TAMA-MIN, I
CAN SEE YOUR
UNDERWEAR...

EKK!

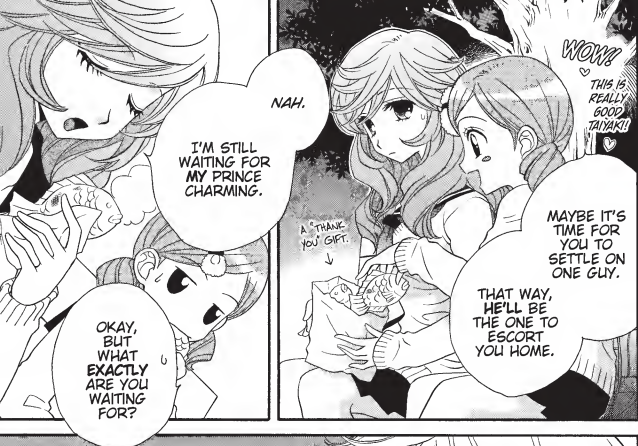
WHAAT?!

THE
PERVERT
WAS YOUR
OLD CRAM
SCHOOL
INSTRUC-
TOR?!

AND...

FOR
REAL?!

YOUR
FIRST
CRUSH?!



NAH.

I'M STILL
WAITING FOR
MY PRINCE
CHARMING.

OKAY,
BUT
WHAT
EXACTLY
ARE YOU
WAITING
FOR?

A "THANK
YOU" GIFT.

WOW!

THIS IS
REALLY
GOOD
TAIYAKI!

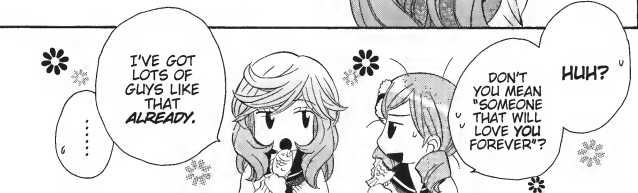
MAYBE IT'S
TIME FOR
YOU TO
SETTLE ON
ONE GUY.

THAT WAY,
HE'LL BE
THE ONE TO
ESCORT
YOU HOME.



SOME-
ONE...

I
CAN LOVE
FOREVER.



I'VE GOT
LOTS OF
GUYS LIKE
THAT
ALREADY.

DON'T
YOU MEAN
"SOMEONE
THAT WILL
LOVE YOU
FOREVER"?

HUH?

IF
I'LL
EVER
FIND
TRUE
LOVE?

I WON-
DER...

I
HAVEN'T
FOUND
ONE
YET.

BUT IT'S
HARD TO
FIND A GUY
WHO CAN
KEEP MY
INTEREST.

I
THINK THE
PROBLEM
PARTIALLY
LIES WITH
SUGI-SAN...

WELL,
YOU'LL
ALWAYS
HAVE
ME!

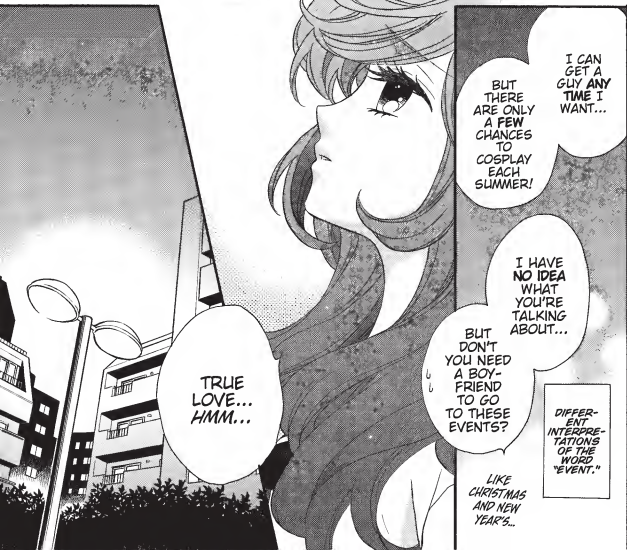
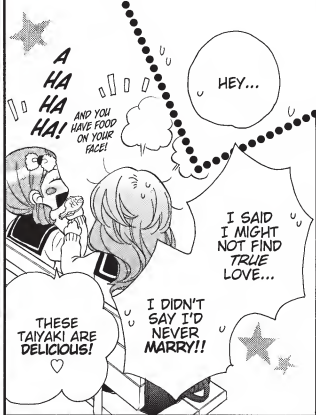
HUH?
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

WE
COULD LIVE
IN AN OLD
FOLKS HOME
TOGETHER!



SUGI-SAN,
EVEN IF YOU
GROW OLD
AND NEVER
MARRY...

TAMA-
MIN...





AKKO
AND
MARI...

AH!

IT'S
TOUGH
TO
FIND.



GRIN



GOOD
FOR
THEM!



OH...



HM.

UHH...
I CAN'T
SAY...

SO,
WHAT'S
IT LIKE
TO FIND
TRUE
LOVE?

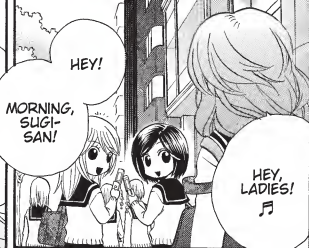
I'M
JEALOUS!
YOU TWO
MUST REALLY
BE INTO EACH
OTHER!

ERR...
I
GUESS
...

EH?

ARE
THEY
TALKING
ABOUT
US?

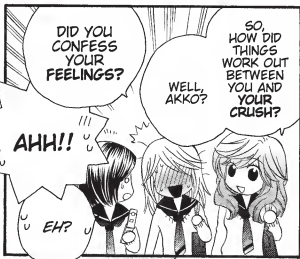
EHEH...



HEY!

MORNING,
SUGI-
SAN!

HEY,
LADIES!
♪



DID YOU
CONFESS
YOUR
FEELINGS?

SO,
HOW DID
THINGS
WORK OUT
BETWEEN
YOU AND
YOUR
CRUSH?

WELL,
AKKO?

AHH!!

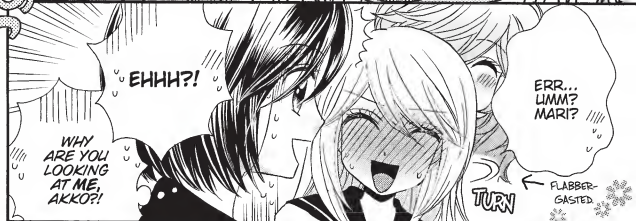
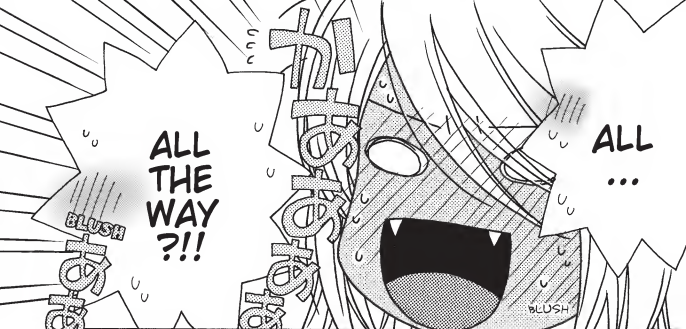
EH?



?!!!

SO
TELL
ME...

DID
YOU GO
ALL THE
WAY?





AH! DON'T
TELL ME...

URK...

GRIN

GRIN

WHY
IS SHE
BEING SO
PERSIST-
ENT?

DOES
SUGI-SAN
KNOW?

BA-THUMP

BA-THUMP

IT'S ALL
RIGHT, MARI-
CHIN! WE'RE
ALL FRIENDS
HERE!

MARI-
CHIN IS
SOOO
CUTE!

EMON
TELL
ME!



I'M
ENVI-
OUS.

Tsk

THEY'RE
SO...

SWEET
AND
INNOCENT.



MAYBE...

I
NEED TO
BE MORE
OPTIMISTIC
WHEN IT
COMES TO
LOVE.

E-JHP

CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

WELL...

AT
LEAST
I CAN
TEASE
THEM A
LITTLE.



TO
WHAT?

NOW
WHO WILL
RESPOND
FIRST?
♪

click



MESSAGE

KANJI FULL-SIZE

9973

I'M FREE THIS WEEKEND...
ANYONE WANT TO DO
SOMETHING FUN...? ♡



MY
MESSAGE.
I'M GOING
TO DATE...

THE
FIRST
GUY WHO
TEXTS
BACK.
♪

I CC'ED
ALL FIVE
OF THEM.

SO
I CAN
FIND...

MY
ONE
TRUE
LOVE.

OH JEEZ!
YOU'RE
HOPELESS.

IT'S ONLY
FAIR, YOU
KNOW?

← DECIDED TO
DATE ONE
GUY EACH
WEEKEND.

GIRL FRIENDS — ガールフレンズ —

EXTRA MANGA 6



CHIRP

CHIRP

HEY,
EVERY-
ONE!

WANNA
GO TO THE
BEACH THIS
WEEKEND?

♪

HMMM

YOU'RE
COMING
RIGHT,
MARI?

I'LL
NEED TO
GET SUN-
BLOCK...

YEAH!

UHM...
BUT...

♪

HMM...
SOUNDS
LIKE A
GOOD
EXCUSE
TO DRAW
YOU IN A
SCHOOL
SWIMSUIT.

HUH?

THE ONLY
SWIMSUIT
I HAVE IS
MY SCHOOL
ONE FROM
JUNIOR
HIGH.

IT'S
JUST...

OKAY!
HERE
IT IS!

OKAY
THEN!
WE'LL GO
SHOPPING
FOR A
NEW
ONE!

♪



AT THE
BEACH.

HUH? BUT...
SHOPPING...

R-
REALLY?

MARI-
CHIN, I
CAN LEND
YOU ONE
OF MINE.

AKKO
LOOKS
REALLY
CUTE IN
POLKA
DOTS!

EHEHEN...

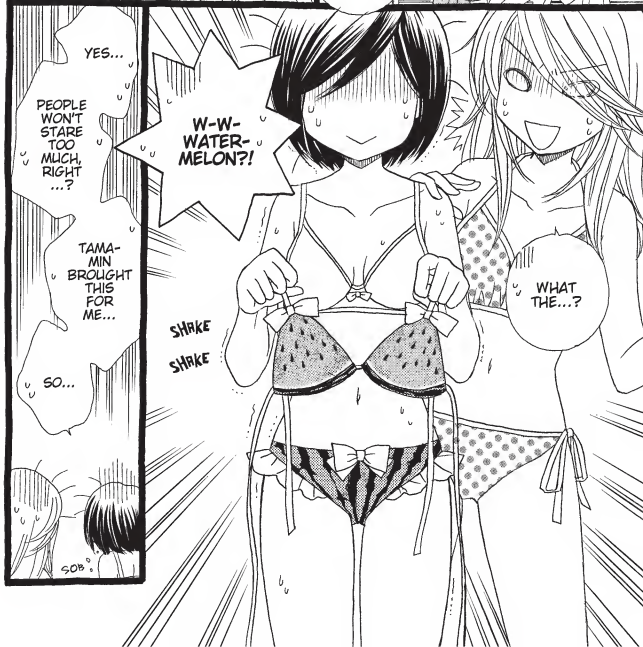
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN BY
THAT?

BUT
SUGI-SAN,
AS ALWAYS,
OVERDOES
IT...

TA-
DAH

VR=VOOM

はははん



MARI...!

HEH.

I'M NOT
ASHAMED!

THIS IS
NOTHING!

堂
LOUD
AND
PROUD!

AND
SO MARI
FELL IN
LOVE WITH
AKKO
EVEN
MORE...

...FOR BEING
AS SWEET,
CARING, AND
COURAGEOUS
AS ANY MAN.

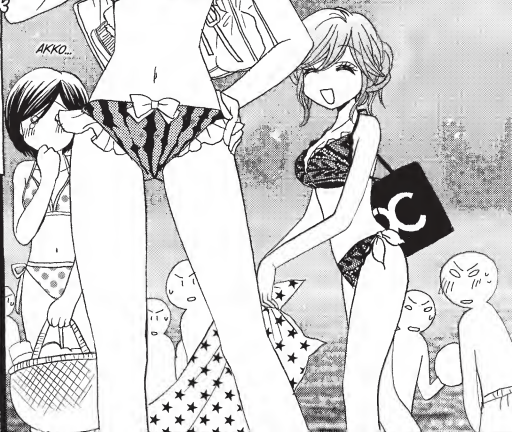


TANA-MIN'S SWIMSUIT WAS EVEN
WORSE... THERE WAS NO WAY SOME-
ONE WOULD BORROW THAT THING...



AKKO...

LOOKS
GREAT
ON YOU!



SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

GIRLFRIENDS

story and art by **MILK MORINAGA** **VOLUME 4**

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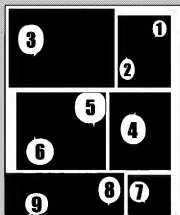
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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but it's the way manga is read.



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OLDER TEEN (16+)

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